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PART I.

CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

AFFAIRS OF THIBET.

1903.



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Rumours have been circulated at Chengtu of 500 Russian soldiers having entered Thibet from the north. This is a mere "bazaar" report, and, as such, not deserving of credence.

This telegram has been sent to India.

No. 3.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received October 1.)*

(No. 231.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, October 1, 1903.*

CONSUL-GENERAL at Cheng-tu telegraphs that, according to what the Resident for Thibet says, the latter cannot reach the Indian frontier under three months, at least.

No. 4.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received October 19.)*

(No. 238.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, October 19, 1903.*

SIKKIM-THIBET Frontier Mission.

With reference to the Viceroy of India's letter to the Chinese Resident for Thibet, dated the 25th August, I have received a written communication from Prince Ching to the effect that a telegram from the Chinese Resident has arrived, in which it is stated that, as requested by the Viceroy, Commissioner Ho has been recalled, and replaced by Major Chao. Captain Parr remains as Joint Chinese Commissioner with Chao.

The Resident has written to Captain Parr requesting him to dissuade the British Commissioner from choosing another place for passing the winter.

I have been asked by Prince Ching to request that instructions be given to Colonel Younghusband to prevent him from crossing the frontier on any account.

Presumably the meaning is that Younghusband should not move further inland from his present position.

I have refrained from asking Prince Ching for an explanation, as it is advisable for me to discuss the Thibetan question with the Chinese Government as little as possible, having regard to your Lordship's telegram No. 162 of the 3rd October.

This telegram has been sent to Indian Government.

No. 5.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received October 26.)*

(No. 310.)

My Lord,

*Peking, September 2, 1903.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a copy of a despatch which I have received from His Majesty's Consul-General at Chengtu reporting on affairs in Szechuan and in Thibet.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ERNEST SATOW.



## Inclosure in No. 5.

*Consul-General Hosie to Mr. Townley.*(No. 11.)  
(Extract.)*Chengtú, August 1, 1903.*

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I have just received from Mr. Moyes, a member of the China Inland Mission, who is stationed at 'Ta-chien-lu,\* a letter from which the following is an extract:—

*"Ta-chien-lu, July 18, 1903.*

"A few days ago Mr. Ma, the owner of our house here, brought a Thibetan with him to see us. He said this Thibetan most likely knew more about Thibetan affairs than any other on this border. We took them into our sitting-room, thinking we were now likely to get the latest Thibetan news, but we were soon disappointed; the man had other purposes, and he told us only as much as he thought wise. After requesting secrecy, he began by telling us who he was and also some of his past history. He is well known here as one of the Chief's headmen, and I had heard of him before in another connection, viz., the stealing of his wife by the Chief's brother. His name is Chang-si-t'ai. He seems to be a man of considerable ability, and seems capable of taking an intelligent grasp of political affairs, but to give you what he said, as far as I can remember, he began: 'About nine or ten years ago he was sent into Thibet as interpreter to the Amban, as such he had to go with him to the Indian border, and was here throughout the negotiations of the last Treaty.'

"Shortly after the fighting there, news came to the Dalai Lama at Lhasa that some Russians had arrived from the north, and were demanding an interview with the Dalai Lama as they had an important message. Some Thibetan Chiefs were sent out to try and keep this Russian Prince from coming to Lhasa, and, on the way, they decided on the following plan of action: first, they would call and see the Russian, then see if he took a liking to any of them, and the one he took a liking to would pretend to be on very friendly terms, and make as if he could not prevail on his fellow Chiefs to fall in with his suggestions. This sort of thing continued for eight days, then the Russian said he would give up the idea of going to Lhasa if they could be trusted with a secret message to the Dalai Lama.

"The message was thus: 'We have heard of your fighting with the British and your defeat, now you will never be able to fight with Britain, it is a very big and powerful country, better let Russia help you, she will give you guns and ammunition, money and men, whenever you ask for them.'

"The Chiefs replied they might be glad of the money and guns and ammunition, but they would not have men, but they could not settle a matter of this kind without the Dalai Lama. The Russian then asked if one of them could accompany him for one day's journey and live with him in his tent, and Shah-ts'a, a young man who had been the favourite, was chosen for this. He was with the Russian a whole day and a night, and none of the Thibetans know what took place between them during that time, and soon after suspicions began to arise at Lhasa regarding this Shah-ts'a, and while under this cloud he opened out to this Ta-chien-lu interpreter, who had by this time become his confidential friend. The interpreter only told us two things that transpired between Shah-ts'a and the Russian, 'he gave him nine sheets of paper and envelopes which, he said, if once across the Russian border, could not go astray, and would certainly reach the Czar,' the other was, 'Russia had different sects in her country, and would give Thibetans religious freedom.'

"Later on this same Shah-ts'a was chosen to go and stay at Darjeeling, and, while staying at the high school, he used his interpreter to collect information for him, he obtained maps, &c., and his interpreter went down on the plains somewhere and secretly secured five Indian gun-makers and smuggled them across the border at Yatung, and afterwards established a gun-factory at a monastery further in. This Shah-ts'a is now practically at the head of affairs in Thibet, and this Ta-chien-lu interpreter, reckoning on his former friendship and as interpreter to the Amban, hints along that line, so that I do not know whether he is prepared to act the part of spy, or whether he merely intends to use his influence for British interests while acting as interpreter to the new Amban. The Amban will be leaving Chengtu soon, and I think part of the man's plan is to have his name mentioned to him as the most likely

\* In Szechuan, on Thibetan frontier, due east of Lhasa.



interpreter to be of service during the coming negotiations. One reason for his present mood might be his hatred for the Chief's brother.

"When Chang came back from Thibet last time, he found the Chief's brother had commandeered his wife, and I think he is unable to hide his hatred to the Chief's brother for this, and, as this brother may any day become Chief, he fears his life is a bit insecure, I think, and would like to clear out of the country. We told the man we were not political agents, knew nothing about such matters, and had no power to act. He seemed rather frightened at this, but we told him what he had said would be kept secret, and we would forward his request to you, but could do nothing more. If you feel the matter is of any value, and if you will be going to some cool place during August, I think arrangements could be made for you to see this man here; he has a good deal of useful information I think, and he took much for granted in talking to us. We did not get the full force of much of what he said on this account. He talked about the Russians coming in from Si-ning, about taking the border tribes first, and some other such hints in which we could not follow him. I hope we have not been indiscreet in telling him we would write to you about this matter; as a missionary I would rather keep out of all such, but we were into it before we were aware. (Signed) JAS. MOYES."

It would appear from the above that the alleged Russian action is not of recent date; but, if true, it shows the methods which Russia is prepared to pursue in order to gain a footing in Thibet.

The new Chinese Imperial Resident and Assistant Resident for Thibet are still here;\* they do not leave for their posts till next month, the custom being to remain in Chengtu 100 days for the purpose of engaging interpreters and making other preparations for the journey.

#### No. 6.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received October 27.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 26th October, proposing and giving reasons for the necessity of an advance to Gyantze.

*India Office, October 27, 1903.*

#### Inclosure in No. 6.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

October 26, 1903.

YOUR telegram of the 1st October.

Colonel Younghusband has been at Simla, on summons from Government of India, for personal consultation regarding Thibet, after which we have unanimously agreed in following conclusions. For following reasons advance into Thibet appears to us to be indispensable:—

1. Though Dalai Lama agreed to the Commissioners meeting at Khambajong, the Thibetan Delegates have refused to hold any communications or relations with our Commissioner. For more than three months past they have shut themselves up in fort.

2. As to Chinese Delegates, none of suitable rank have as yet been sent. Colonel

\* On the 1st October Sir E. Satow telegraphed that the Resident said it would take at least three months to reach the Indian frontier.



Chao, who is only Commandant of Phari, and inferior in position to Ho, has been appointed to succeed latter.

3. From the first, Chinese Government have deliberately procrastinated, though affecting to co-operate, their object in delay being to drive us into winter, when they expect us to retire. They informed us officially last December that Amban Yutai had been appointed to negotiate, but he is still on his way, travelling leisurely, and is not expected to arrive at Lhasa before end of year. It was easy for Chinese Government to wire their instructions to Lhasa via Khambajong, by which route Parr sends his messages to Peking, but they have preferred posting them across Thibet. Moreover, the present Amban at Lhasa has also failed to reply to Viceroy's letter of the 25th August.

4. Thibetans have for months past been preparing for war, collecting troops and supplies in every part of country between Lhasa and our frontier.

5. They have sent no reply to any of our representations regarding the two British subjects whom they arrested and imprisoned at Shigatse, and whom it is now rumoured they have tortured and killed.

6. There has been a complete failure of the policy pursued for the last twenty-five years by the Government of India towards Thibet; the only result being that the Thibetans mistake our patience for weakness, reject our overtures with scorn, and despise our strength. In Colonel Younghusband's opinion, since we retired in 1888, both Thibetans and Chinese confidently expect our retirement, refusing to believe that we shall do anything.

It is clear that in these circumstances we have no alternative but to advance, as already authorized by His Majesty's Government. After consideration, and upon Colonel Younghusband's advice, we unhesitatingly recommend that the advance should extend to Gyangtse, and should not be confined to Chumbi Valley.

The following are our reasons:—

(1.) Chumbi Valley is on Indian side of the watershed, and is not regarded as part of Thibet. Thibetans would therefore regard its occupation as a retrograde movement, comparing it with the position at Khambajong, in Thibet proper, which we at present occupy.

(2.) If we move only into the Chumbi Valley, we shall find our present situation repeated at Phari instead of Khambajong, and it will require stronger measures to convince Thibetans that we are in earnest.

(3.) Colonel Younghusband considers it extremely important that we should come into contact with the Thibetan people. They are quite friendly to enter into relations with us, and are quite friendly, only the hierarchy of Lhasa Lamas being opposed. Colonel Younghusband's relations with the Thibetans from Shigatse and with those around Khambajong have been most friendly, and the same results may be anticipated at Gyangtse.

(4.) Moreover, as we are pressing to have a mart at Gyangtse, this object cannot be secured in any better way than by our advancing thither at once.

For these reasons we recommend that immediate advance to Gyangtse through the Chumbi Valley should be sanctioned. Colonel Younghusband would join column at Kalatso, by cross march from Khambajong. After his departure, latter place would be occupied by Nepalese, who are rendering every assistance, and who will supply yaks. Country beyond Chumbi Valley is open and rolling, and Tangla Pass, leading out of Chumbi Valley, is quite easy. Gyangtse is about 80 miles from Phari, and about 140 miles from our frontier at the Jelap Pass.

We should hope to commence movement by end of November. We do not anticipate any serious resistance, and think that the advance, which would probably occupy three weeks, could be accomplished with one battalion and a few guns. Though cold, the season of the year is entirely favourable, and we anticipate no difficulty in carrying through operations and maintaining communications and supplies. On arrival, force would not attack Gyangtse, but, as was done at Khambajong, they would establish a fortified post, and would invite Thibetans and Chinese to resume negotiations in manner indicated in my letter to Amban.

Plan of proposed military movements will be forwarded as soon as sanction of His Majesty's Government is received.



## No. 7.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received October 23.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, dated the 8th October, relative to the Thibetan negotiations.

*India Office, October 27, 1903.*

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Inclosure 1 in No. 7.

*Colonel Younghusband to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Khamba Jong, September 26, 1903.*

PLEASE refer to paragraph 11 of my letter dated the 9th September, your letter dated the 15th September, and to Bengal Government's telegram of the 24th, saying that Bhutanese were suspected of an inclination to join Thibet. I think the Bhutanese should be induced to declare their intention, for, if they are approached now, we ought to be able to get them on our side, for they have to fear our stopping their subsidy and also attacking them with the troops soon to be assembled in Sikkim. I would, therefore, suggest that proposal of Lieutenant-Governor, Bengal, in the Bengal Government's letter dated the 22nd August, that Bhutanese officials be invited to meet the Commissioner, Rajshahi, to discuss reconnaissance road to Chumbi Valley be adopted.

Both Parr and Montague, Manager Bengal-Duars Railway, are confident that a practical road up Ammo Chu might be made. Walsh's information regarding this route is not reliable, and when he speaks of a pass only 6,600 feet high between Di Chu and Ammo Chu, he is apparently mistaking a pass across a spur for one across the main range. I am not in favour of sending native surveyor to examine these routes, for the information he would bring back would be indecisive, but I recommend sending O'Connor up the Di Chu and over the watershed to Assamese Dolam, and then down the Ammo Chu, a reconnaissance which need not last more than fourteen days. I urge this matter because I find that Walsh, as well as everybody else knowing this frontier, says that the Chumbi Valley must be the real route to Thibet, and to get to Chumbi we must find some better way than over the Jelep-la, and avoid waste of money on mere temporary roads. It would pay us to subsidize the Bhutanese well to give us the use of this route, and, if adroitly managed, this might be the means of gaining them over to our side—like the Nepalese. Maharajah of Cooch Behar has privately expressed his opinion that Tongsa and Paro-penlos would be only too glad to fall in with views of British Government if matters were properly represented to them.

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Inclosure 2 in No. 7.

*Political Diary of the Thibet Frontier Commission.*

(Confidential.)

14th to 17th September, 1903.—Nothing worthy of note.

18th September.—Mr. White and Captain O'Connor returned from their excursion in the direction of Kala Tso, on the road between Phari and Gyangtse. The Thibetans stopped them, but in the most friendly way possible. The so-called soldiers were not even armed. They numbered about 100. The result of the reconnaissance was to ascertain definitely that the road to Kala Tso was perfectly easy, but that there was very little firewood along it.

Major Bretherton and Lieutenant Mackie, I.M.S., arrived.

19th September.—After a full discussion with Mr. White, Captain O'Connor, and



Major Bretherton of Mr. Higgins' Report on the various roads to the Jelap-la, I telegraphed to Government recommending the route by Rongpo, and up the Rongpo and Rongli Rivers. This seems to be the best winter route, and the one which can be most readily made available. Before next rains the route by Kalimpong and Labha, which follows the ridge and avoids the valleys, might be constructed, but Mr. White says that for 21 miles along this route there is difficulty about water, even in the rains. Besides which, if the Pioneer Regiment worked on the Rongpo-Rongli route throughout the winter, they ought to be able to make it strong enough to last through the rains.

Mr. White and I also discussed with Major Bretherton the question of supplies for the winter and of transporting the Mission to Gyangtse in the event of a forward move being forced on us by the Thibetans. It was decided that the Mission should be supplied up to the end of May, as the autumn is the best time of year for transporting supplies, and there would be difficulty in crossing the passes in the spring. For transport to Gyangtse we would depend on the Nepalese yaks.

20th September.—By direction of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, a number of letters from Miss Taylor, of Yatung, which had been placed at his disposal by a friend of hers, have been forwarded to me. Coming from an excitable lady in an isolated and dangerous position, they are naturally rather alarmist, and they talk of a combined Thibetan and Bhutanese raid upon Darjeeling and the Duars. Nevertheless, there is also a certain amount of useful information which goes to confirm what we hear here. She speaks of the dislike of the Thibetans to the Chinese and of the attempts of the Russians to win over the Thibetans. She says the Thibetans do not want the Russians in their country, that they evidently rely on them for support against us. She states that the Dalai Lama is very much put out at the reports that he had refused to receive a letter from the Viceroy, and says that the Ugyen Kazi never presented him with it. She warns Government, and Mr. Wilton has warned me in the same sense, that Englishmen in the Chinese Customs service must be expected to look more after the interests of their Chinese masters, from whom they draw very high pay, than after the interests of their own countrymen. She speaks of the ordinary Thibetan as being very well disposed towards us. She regards the Chumbi Valley as the natural key to Thibet. She says the Indian Government ought to know that the Thibetan Government have decided on war: the Dalai Lama says that, as the British want his country, he has no alternative but to fight, though as a Lama he dislikes war. They have divined at Lhasa, and this year has been declared a good one in which to fight. Soldiers all over Thibet have been warned to be ready to start on being called, and the Lamas of the big monasteries are also ready to fight. War is to take place in October, and both Nepalese and Bhutanese are to join the Thibetans, while Russians are also to support them. There are said to be 1,000 soldiers near Khamba Jong. The sheds at Yatung, which used to be used for storing wool in, are now filled with rations for the soldiers, and whereas there used formerly to be only 50 soldiers stationed at Yatung, there are now 100. A Calcutta merchant, in forwarding these letters, says:—

“If the Bhutias rise, they could do an immense amount of mischief along our practically undefended border in the Duars before they could be stopped. Burning the factories and bungalows, and coolies scattered far and wide, would be the least of it!”

(Signed)

F. E. YOUNGHUSBAND, Colonel.

*Khamba Jong, September 21, 1903.*

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Inclosure 3 in No. 7.

*Colonel Younghusband to Government of India.*

(Confidential.)

*Khamba Jong, September 21, 1903.*

WITH reference to my letter, dated the 11th instant, and previous correspondence, I have the honour to submit the diary of Captain O'Connor for the period 11th to the 18th instant.

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## Inclosure 4 in No. 7.

*Diary kept by Captain O'Connor during the Thibet Frontier Mission.*

September 11, 1903.—Bright, clear, cloudless morning. Maximum temperature, 71 degrees; minimum, 30 degrees.

Mr. Bailey went out early to investigate the tents, which are pitched near the hot springs. He found they were inhabited only by some wandering beggars. A large convoy arrived, bringing parcels, stores, &c. Large quantities of provisions continue to arrive at the Jong. On the 5th instant, 85 yak-loads of salt and and tsampa arrived; on the 8th, 70 yak-loads; on the 10th, 35 yak-loads; and smaller quantities on the intermediate days. The salt is exchanged with the villagers for grain. If this activity is typical of what is going on all over Thibet, the Thibetan Commissariat Department will be well supplied when hostilities begin; and we shall know where to forage for supplies.

September 12.—Cloudless morning. Maximum temperature, 69·9 degrees; minimum, 32·5 degrees.

One of the servants reports that, after the moon rose last night, he saw a large number of Thibetans crossing the pass over the hill to the north of the Jong, coming from the Shigatse direction. He says they came in batches of ten and twenty at a time, and must have numbered several hundreds. He thinks they all went into the Jong.

The telegraph wire is now progressing apace, and the posts are all up as far as this. The wire should be in to-morrow.

Ba-du-la and the old and present Jongpens called at 3 this afternoon, and the Kumar and I had a long conversation with them. They only came to have a talk, I think, but, of course, raised their usual complaints. As an additional argument in favour of the adoption of Yatung as a place of meeting, Ba-du-la said that the Abbot had recently cast a most excellent horoscope by which it had been revealed to him that Yatung was in every respect admirably situated for the discussion of frontier affairs, and, in fact, a better place could scarcely be found. I told him that this fact would certainly be borne in mind and given due weight in future consideration of the subject. He also said that should the Amban and a Shape come here as he believed was proposed, the local people would be put to the greatest trouble and hardship in supplying these officials and their retinue with fuel and provisions. That the Chinese especially were too proud to burn the ordinary sheep or yak-dung fuel, and would have to be supplied with wood, and he said that the Chinese officials were extortionate and mean. That they got all they could from the poor country-people, and never paid a penny for anything. There is little love lost between them and the Thibetans.

September 13.—Bright, cloudless morning. Maximum temperature, 66·5 degrees; minimum, 28 degrees.

Mr. White and I started at 10·35, rode to Giru, and thence, leaving the main road, to Sikkim, we turned a little to the eastward and rode on to the hills of the Sikkim frontier, and descended to the half-way but on the Sikkim side. A piercing cold wind was blowing up the Lachen Valley from the south, and we contrasted the climate most unfavourably with that of Khamba Jong. When our yaks reached us, we went on and camped near Gyamtso Nong—17,200 feet.

September 14.—The wind blew without intermission all night. In fact, the Lachen Valley is a regular funnel, confined by the two great peaks of Kangchenjha and Chomimomo on east and west, up which pours a continuous stream of fog and mist, accompanied by a howling wind. We could see this valley smoking like a great chimney from other parts of Thibet and Sikkim, when the sky elsewhere was perfectly cloudless. Minimum temperature at our camp, 24 degrees.

[Maximum temperature at Khamba Jong, 64 degrees; minimum, 28·5 degrees.]

Starting at 9 A.M., we rode along eastward, just inside the Sikkim frontier, and camped after a 13-mile march at Oloteng Dok, just north of the Donkhya Pass. Elevation 18,300 feet.

September 15.—Bright, clear morning. Minimum temperature during the night, 19·5 degrees. Temperature at 6·30 A.M., 25 degrees.

[Maximum temperature at Khamba Jong, 67 degrees; minimum, 30·5 degrees.]

Leaving camp at 7·30 A.M., we travelled in a south-easterly direction to the summit of the Kangchung La,\* where we made hypsometrical observations. From the summit

\* Elevation by aneroid barometer, 19,200 feet.



of the pass we had a fair view of Thibet to the north and north-east. The general character of the country is far more mountainous than I had supposed, the hills rising 2,000 and 3,000 feet above the valley bottoms. Leaving the yaks to continue down the valley to the north-east, Mr. White and I rode up the hillside to the east to a height of some 20,000 feet, whence we could see Chumolhari and the Bham Tso on the main Chumbi-Gyangtse road. We descended thence along the ridge to a "dok" or shepherds' encampment at the junction of four streams some 8 or 9 miles from the summit of the pass.

On arrival here we found that our yak-drivers had mistaken their orders and gone astray, and we sent off our only attendant (my Thibetan servant) to hunt for them. It was now getting dark, so we resigned ourselves to a night in the open, and soon lit a good fire of yak-dung. Just at dark a small party of Thibetans sneaked up to our camp and took us by surprise; but that were very civil, and withdrew when we told them to come again in the morning. By 9 o'clock our yaks and servants turned up. Elevation of our camp, 17,000 feet.

September 16.—Clear, cloudless morning. Minimum temperature during the night, 18·2 degrees.

[Maximum temperature at Khamba Jong, 67·5 degrees; minimum, 30 degrees.]

We found quite a crowd of Thibetans gathered round us in the morning, some fifty or sixty altogether, and they kept dropping in by twos and threes until we started. They were most of them "soldiers," without arms of any kind, and as simple and good-natured a collection of young yokels as we could wish to meet. They made no attempt to interfere with us in any way, only asking us to go back or they would get into trouble. We announced our intention of going straight across country to Khamba Jong, to which they cheerfully acquiesced—only too thankful to be rid of us at any price. They were under the orders of a "Shengo" or "Dingpon." After forming them up in line and photographing them, we rode off in an easterly direction towards Ta-tsang Gompa. Our escort accompanied us for a mile or two, and we parted on the best of terms. These so-called soldiers were all Gyangtse men, brought here to watch the passes. They are simple and a collection of ignorant, untrained rustics, without the slightest pretensions towards military acquirements, and apparently without arms. Their one idea of military science is to build ridiculous little breast-walls on the crests of passes and across roads. After a short march of some 7 miles, we camped on the banks of a stream some 5 miles south of Ta-tsang Gompa.

September 17.—Clear morning. Minimum temperature, 24 degrees.

[Maximum temperature at Khamba Jong, 73 degrees; minimum, 33·5 degrees.]

Sending our baggage to Ta-tsang Gompa, we rode in a north-easterly direction for some 7 miles to the summit of a pass in the central chain, whence we obtained a good view of the Kala Tso and the country in the neighbourhood. There was the usual Thibetan guard at the top of the pass and the usual breastworks defending the pass and the hills on either side. The Kalo Tso lies in a wide open basin surrounded by hills on all sides. Round the shores of the lake are green marshy-looking expanses, with a "dok" here and there, but no houses or villages visible. Neither in the plain of the lake, nor on the surrounding hillsides, could we see any trace of "Yomo" or other fuel. The Gyangtse road lies along the eastern shores of the lake across a level plain, and then enters what appeared to us a narrow gorge with high steep hills on either side. We chatted freely with the Thibetan soldiers, and they gave us the benefit of such topographical knowledge as they possessed. The pass we were in is called the Lombo La; elevation 16,950 feet. It is reached by an easy gradient on either side, and the stream flowing to the east drains into the Kala Tso through an open grassy valley. This is certainly the easiest way to reach the Kala Tso either from Giru or from Khamba Jong. Making a slight detour, we rode to our camp at Ta-tsang Gompa, which we reached at 2 P.M., shooting a kyang *en route*.

In the evening we visited Ta-tsang Gompa, which is an "Ani Gompa," or nunnery containing thirty-six nuns. These good ladies received us without the smallest embarrassment, and allowed us to take their photographs and to converse with them freely. They ranged through all ages from 10 to 80, and were most of them incredibly dirty; but some of the younger women were quite pretty, and all were most cheerful and friendly. After visiting their place of worship, we distributed some rupees, and left with a promise to send them some tea, &c., as a present from Khamba. One poor nun, who had committed the indiscretion of having a baby, was living with her infant in a wretched cave just behind our camp. She will, however, be re-admitted later on to the community on payment of a small fine, which generally takes the form of a public tea.



The Gompa is built on a rock by the side of a nice stream of water which flows here in a grassy valley.

September 18.—It clouded up during the night, and there were heavy banks of clouds all round and overhead in the morning. Minimum temperature 33 degrees.

[Maximum temperature at Khamba Jong 71 degrees; minimum 39 degrees.]

We paid a second visit to the nunnery before starting, and took some more photographs. Starting at 8.45 A.M., we rode quietly into Khamba Jong, a distance of about 20 miles. Keeping to the south of the range of hills bounding the Khamba Jong nulla, we crossed a very elevated plateau sloping gradually upwards for some 7 or 8 miles, and covered with herds of kyang and goa. We reached our camp at 2 P.M., just in time to escape a heavy fall of hail which whitened all the hills behind us. The yaks took nine hours to cover the distance.

As a result of our trip, we have made ourselves thoroughly acquainted with the country to the east of this place as far as the crest of the hills separating the basin of the Arun from the streams flowing into the Kala Tso, and can now move in the direction of Gyangtse over routes which we know. As regards the fuel question, there is no fuel (except the usual small quantities of yak-dung) between Khamba Jong and Kala Tso. A force moving in that direction would have to carry at least four days' fuel. Native information says that, on leaving Kala Tso, scrub bushes of sorts are found in plenty all the way to Gyangtse.

A trustworthy informant says that he hears that the Amban cannot come himself to Khamba Jong, and that he will address the Tale Lama on the matter of sending Tibetan representatives of higher rank.

Major Bretherton and Captain Mackie, I.M.S., rode into camp from Tangu during the evening.

(Signed) W. F. O'CONNOR.

Camp Khamba Jong, September 19, 1903.

Seen.

(Signed) J. C. WHITE.

September 19, 1903.

Inclosure 5 in No. 7.

*Government of Bengal to Government of India.*

(Confidential.)

*Darjeeling, September 24, 1903.*

IN connection with correspondence relating to Thibet frontier news and to the relations of Thibet with Bhutan, I am directed to submit to you some information, which, in the opinion of the Lieutenant-Governor, may prove to be important.

2. On the 19th August, under the directions of the Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling, two Bhutias, residents of Kalimpong in that district, were sent by Rai Bahadur Ugyen Gyatsho, Manager of the Government estate of Kalimpong, into the Chumbi Valley with instructions to go to Lhasa, or, as far as possible, in the direction of Lhasa in order to obtain news. These men returned to Kalimpong on the 15th September, having been able to proceed only five days' journey beyond Phakri Jong on the road which goes to Lhasa via Nagartsi. They state that beyond Phakri Jong they saw on the road numbers of monks and soldiers and yaks carrying provisions. They also state that, on their return journey, they learned at Phakri Jong some serious news with regard to an understanding between Thibet and Bhutan.

3. A copy of a translation of the diary kept by one of the two spies is herewith inclosed. The substance of the information verbally given by them to Rai Bahadur Ugyen Gyatsho, and communicated by him to the Commissioner of the Rajshahi Division, is recorded in the annexed note.

4. The Lieutenant-Governor receives with caution both the information given as to the gathering of Thibetan troops and monks on the Nagartsi road, and as to the message sent by the Paro Penlop to the Bhutan officer stationed at Phakri Jong. But it is evident that Rai Bahadur Ugyen Gyatsho believes his messengers; and this fact gives importance to their statements. Rai Ugyen Gyatsho, who is a Thibetan and who formerly resided in Sikkim, has long been in the service of Government and is believed to be trustworthy.

5. Whether the news with regard to the letter sent by the Paro Penlop to the



Bhutan officer stationed at Phakri Jong be true or untrue, it seems to the Lieutenant-Governor to indicate the necessity of closer communication with the Bhutan authorities, in order to ascertain their intentions, and to detach them from the Thibetans if it is true that they have any leaning in that direction.

In this connection I am to refer to statements made last year in a letter addressed by the Council of Thibet to their frontier officer in the Chumbi Valley as to the existence of a Treaty between Thibet and Bhutan, which were the subject of correspondence between this Government and the Foreign Department in July last.

6. In my letter, dated 22nd August, 1903, it was suggested that the Commissioner of Rajshahi should invite the Tongsa Penlop, or the Paro Penlop, to meet him at Buxa early in the cold weather to discuss the exploration by Captain O'Connor and another British officer of the Di Chu and Ammo Chu Valley routes into the Chumbi Valley. The Lieutenant-Governor also notices that in a telegram, dated the 9th September, Colonel Younghusband has suggested that Bhutan should be asked to follow the example of Nepal by supplying yaks and other transport. In all these circumstances, the Lieutenant-Governor is disposed to press the suggestion that a meeting should be arranged at Buxa next month, if possible, between the Commissioner of the Rajshahi Division and the Paro Penlop, and any other officer who may be deputed to represent the Tongsa Penlop (who is at present the *de facto* ruler of Bhutan), for the purpose of discussing the important matters which have been mentioned in this letter.

7. A copy of this letter and of its inclosures is being forwarded to Colonel Younghusband for his information. The news it contains has not been communicated in full by telegram, as it was judged difficult to intimate all the facts in that fashion except at inordinate length, or with some loss of detail.

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Inclosure 6 in No. 7.

*Note by Mr. H. C. Williams, Commissioner of Rajshahi, dated September 23, 1903.*

Interviewed Ugyen Gyatsho, Rai Bahadur, who gave me the diary produced. The two men, when they got five days beyond Phari Jong (a post in the Chumbi valley, some two days' journey from Rinchengong), were afraid to proceed further, as they saw numbers of men moving about in tents, and provisions and firewood being taken towards the frontier, so that everything might be in readiness "in case of an outbreak," and returned. The Rai Bahadur makes out that they were at that time about six or seven days' journey from Lhasa. The people told them that there were no foreigners or others (Russians) at Lhasa, but there was the general idea that there would be a disturbance, and that the monks were all out.

2. On the 7th September, when they were at Phakri, a messenger arrived from Bhutan (from the Paro Penlop\* apparently), and a conference was held by the messenger with the Bhutan officers stationed at that place. Through a friend of theirs, they found out the next day that the letter was about Bhutan joining Thibet in a war with England. It was now the eighth month, and Bhutan wanted an answer in the ninth month as to whether they should join the Thibetans or not. The letter said that they, the Bhutias, were ready to do so, because the English had taken land of theirs at Buxa, and also land at Daling. Bhutan inquired by what way they should go to join the Thibetans—by Buxa or Kalimpong, or how. They wanted an answer quickly. The messenger also heard that spies had been sent by Bhutan towards Darjeeling to ascertain what is being done.

3. The messengers were most reluctant to let the Rai Bahadur have this news, as they are very much afraid of its being made known either through him or any one else, in case their relatives in Bhutan should suffer. They also did not want Ugyen Kazi to hear anything about it.

4. The Rai Bahadur is convinced that the messengers were speaking the truth as far as they know.

5. The messengers said that they will get another man who goes to Lhasa and make another attempt to get news.

6. Rai Bahadur asks that the contents of this note may not be made known to any subordinate officer.

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\* Questioned on this point the Rai Bahadur says that, if such a message was sent by the Paro Penlop, it would be with the consent of the Tongsa Penlop.



## No. 8.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received October 28.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 27th October, relative to the Thibetan negotiations.

*India Office, October 28, 1903.*

Inclosure in No. 8.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*October 27, 1903.*

MY telegram, dated the 26th October, regarding affairs in Thibet. We have been apprised by telegraph of the contents of Amban's reply, which is dated the 17th October, and was received at Khamba Jong on the 23rd October. It is obviously an attempt to postpone matters until the new Amban arrives, in order that that responsibility may be transferred to him. The substance of the reply is as follows:—

“Amban declares that the Dalai Lama has been requested to send a Councillor of State to accompany him as Thibetan Commissioner, but that he has been unable to complete the arrangements. He requests, therefore, that Colonel Younghusband should enter into negotiations with Colonel Chao; and also as Thibetan soldiers are occupying the passes, that British Commission should not move to fresh winter quarters. He adds that it will be two or three months before the New Amban arrives. I suggest that our answer to Amban should be to the effect that we have now no alternative but to transfer the place of negotiation to some more suitable spot, as to which he will be hereafter informed; and that we have been forced to adopt this course because he has neither put in an appearance himself nor delegated a suitable representative.”

## No. 9.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received November 5.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 4th November, relative to an attack on Nepalese yaks by Thibetan troops.

*India Office, November 5, 1903.*

Inclosure in No. 9.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*November 4, 1903.*

THIBETAN affairs.

An overt act of hostility has taken place, Thibetan troops having, as we are now informed, attacked Nepalese yaks on the frontier and carried off many of them.



No. 10.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received November 7.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram to the Viceroy, dated the 6th November, relative to the proposed advance of the Thibetan Mission to Gyantse.

*India Office, November 7, 1903.*

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Inclosure in No. 10.

*Mr. Brodrick to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*India Office, November 6, 1903.*

IN view of the recent conduct of the Thibetans, His Majesty's Government feel that it would be impossible not to take action, and they accordingly sanction this advance of the Mission to Gyantse. They are, however, clearly of opinion that the step should not be allowed to lead to occupation or to permanent intervention in Thibetan affairs in any form. The advance should be made for the sole purpose of obtaining satisfaction, and as soon as reparation is obtained a withdrawal should be effected. While His Majesty's Government consider the proposed action to be necessary, they are not prepared to establish a permanent Mission in Thibet, and the question of enforcing trade facilities in that country must be considered in the light of the decision conveyed in this telegram.

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No. 11.

*The Marquess of Lansdowne to Mr. Spring-Rice.*

(No. 307.)

Sir,

*[Foreign Office, November 7, 1903.]*

THE Russian Ambassador, whom I had not seen since the 12th August, called on me this morning.

He told me that during his absence from this country he had had conversations with Count Lamsdorff as to Anglo-Russian relations at St. Petersburg, earlier in the autumn, and again within the last few days at Paris. On the first occasion he had found Count Lamsdorff well disposed towards this country, and on the second his language was of an even more friendly character. Count Lamsdorff had instructed his Excellency to express his appreciation of our considerate and straightforward policy, particularly in so far as Macedonian affairs were concerned, and he admitted that although we had maintained our right to be critical our criticism had been neither unfair nor unfriendly. Count Lamsdorff felt strongly that it was of importance that an endeavour should be made to remove all sources of misunderstanding between the two Governments, and that there should be "a change for the better" in our relations. Count Benckendorff was therefore instructed to discuss frankly with me the various questions outstanding between Great Britain and Russia with the object of arriving at an agreement as to the manner in which they should be dealt with. In the meantime, the Russian Government would be careful to avoid any action bearing the appearance of hostility to this country. Count Benckendorff had been told that he was to go back to St. Petersburg early in the new year for the purpose of reporting the result of his discussions with His Majesty's Government.

I expressed the pleasure which it gave me to learn Count Lamsdorff's views, and my readiness to contribute, so far as I was able, to such an understanding as has been suggested.

I was the more pleased at the prospect which was thus opened for us, because I had been seriously concerned at the position into which the two Powers were apparently drifting. I should be wanting in frankness if I did not tell his Excellency

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that the attitude of the Russian Government in regard to the question of our relations with Afghanistan had created a most unpleasant impression in our minds.

I pointed out to his Excellency that the Russian demand, which had originally being merely that Afghan and Russian officials should be allowed to communicate with one another in regard to purely local questions of a non-political character, had undergone a remarkable development, the latest Russian demand being apparently for a right of direct intercourse with Afghanistan upon questions of all kinds, whether political or not, and for the right to send Russian Agents into Afghanistan.

Count Benckendorff here interrupted me by observing that the demand to send Agents into Afghanistan had been dropped, and that the proposal, thus limited, might form the subject of discussion between the two Governments. I said that I was glad to hear that the proposal to send Agents had been given up, but I reminded his Excellency that the last communication (that dated 6th October) which we had received from the Russian Government had closed the discussion in almost peremptory terms, so much so that I should have considered it inconsistent with my duty to reopen it. The action of the Russian Government, in refusing to allow a Russian officer to meet the British officer deputed to re-erect the boundary pillars on the Afghan frontier, seemed to me entirely inconsistent with the alleged desire to maintain amicable relations with this country. The pillars had originally been set up by British and Russian officers acting together, and it was surely natural that their restoration should be effected in a similar manner. I could not understand how the Russian Government should have declined a friendly overture made in the circumstances which I had described.

Count Benckendorff replied that the case was not one in which a new boundary was to be demarcated. All that was necessary was that certain posts which had fallen down should be set up again, and for this purpose it had not seemed necessary to resort to combined action.

I said that I was unconvinced by this argument, and that the incident would certainly produce a very bad effect on public opinion in this country. Count Benckendorff made no real attempt to defend the Russian note, and said something to the effect that Count Lamsdorff was away at the time when it was written, and that some official of the Russian Foreign Office was the author of it.

The conversation then turned to the Far East.

I again told his Excellency that we were constantly placed in an embarrassing position owing to the ignorance in which we were kept as to the actual demands put forward by Russia in her negotiations with Japan and China. Count Benckendorff expressed the opinion that no serious difficulty was to be anticipated in coming to terms with the Japanese Government, but they must not fortify the south sea-board of Corea. As to China, he was without information as to the causes which led to the reoccupation of Mukden. I said that he must not be surprised if uncharitable comments were made upon the conduct of Russia in this matter. She had announced that the whole province was to be evacuated by the 8th April, and now, six months later, we found her troops going back to the city of Mukden, from which they had been withdrawn not long ago.

Count Benckendorff dwelt upon the peculiar situation which had been created by the establishment of the new Far Eastern Vice-Royalty. The result had been that the foreign policy of Russia at this point was no longer one and undivided. He evidently wished me to understand that many things happened for which Count Lamsdorff could not be held responsible.

I said that I thought his statement disclosed a grave and most alarming condition of things. How was it possible for us to come to satisfactory understandings with a Foreign Office within which two separate, and, perhaps, conflicting influences were at work? Count Benckendorff agreed with me that the arrangement was most inconvenient, but said significantly that he thought this phase was passing off.

Coming back to Macedonia, Count Benckendorff said that Count Lamsdorff was anxious to have it understood that the policy of the Russian Government did not differ in principle from ours. They had preferred to retain Hilmi Pasha with European assessors rather than appoint a Christian Governor, because they thought the former course the most promising under present conditions. It was a question of opportunity, and Count Lamsdorff admitted that a still further development of the scheme might eventually be inevitable.

I took the opportunity of mentioning to Count Benckendorff that, owing to the outrageous conduct of the Thibetans, who had broken off negotiations with our Representative, seized British subjects, and carried off the transport animals of a



friendly State, it had been decided to send our Commission, with a suitable escort, further into Thibetan territory, but that this step must not be taken as indicating any intention of annexing or even of permanently occupying Thibetan territory.

I am, &c.

(Signed) LANSDOWNE

No. 12.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received November 9.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of Darjeeling Frontier Reports for the weeks ending the 19th and 26th September, 1903.

*India Office, November 7, 1903.*

Inclosure 1 in No. 12.

*Deputy Commissioner Garrett to Government of Bengal.*

*Darjeeling, September 28, 1903.*

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith my Confidential report for the week ending on Saturday, the 26th September, 1903.

2. I have been informed that the garrison at Ilam in Nepal, the normal strength of which is 500 men, is being increased by 200 men. This is in view of the fact that the services of the ordinary garrison may be required outside Nepal, under circumstances already known to you. Owing to the extra recruitment, and the fact that coolies are being collected by the Nepal authorities for transport, I am experiencing great difficulty in getting together the corps of 800 coolies with which Major Bretherton has just asked me to supply him.

3. It is reported that Mr. Ho, who went to Khamba Jong to meet the British Mission, and who is now returning to Lhasa, is meeting with scant courtesy on his journey. On his way to Khamba Jong, the people generally were ordered to supply ponies and mules to him free of cost, but this concession has now been withdrawn under the orders of the Thibetan Government.

This is indicative of the wane of Chinese influence in Thibet.

(Indorsed by Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling.)

*Darjeeling, September 28, 1903.*

COPY of the above submitted to the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, for information.

Inclosure 2 in No. 12.

*Deputy Commissioner Garrett to Government of Bengal.*

(Confidential.)

*Darjeeling, September 21, 1903.*

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith my Confidential report for the week ending on Saturday, the 19th September, 1903.

2. Some ten or fifteen orderlies of the Paro Penlop have arrived at Rinchengong to make further inquiries with reference to the man who was killed by order of the late Darkay Sardar under circumstances previously reported. It is believed that the charges which were brought against the man were false, and it is considered desirable that steps should be taken against his accusers. One Kiphuk, who formerly held the post of Rupon,



but who has recently been promoted to the post of Dapon, has arrived in the place of the late Darkay Sardar.

3. It is reported that one Thimbu Apgan, a Bhutanese Chief, who had been living in exile in the Chumbi Palace of the Sikkim Rajah, died about a month ago. He got into trouble with the Bhutan Government at the time when the relations between Bhutan and Thibet were strained, and left his own country, to which he subsequently was afraid to return. He is said to have taken part against the British in the Sikkim Expedition of 1889.

4. A report has reached Rai Bahadur Ugyen Gyatsho that the Lamas in Lhasa have been endeavouring to persuade the Dalai Lama to take steps to forcibly expel the British Mission from Thibet, but the Dalai Lama is not disposed to adopt their advice, and has declined to make preparations for war. The same informant stated to the Rai Bahadur that a letter was received in Lhasa some time ago from the Russian Government, announcing that the Czar of Russia had adopted Buddhism. In reply, the Thibetan Government wrote that, under the circumstances, Russia should come to the help of Thibet if the English attempted an invasion. The common rumour in Lhasa is that the Russians are coming.

5. Tuk-pa-bu Tshring, who recently petitioned Government for the return of his iron goods which were attached in April last, has reached Kalimpong on his return journey to Thibet.

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*Memorandum.*

(Confidential.)

Copy forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, for information.

(Signed)

J. H. E. GARRETT,  
*Deputy Commissioner.*

*Darjeeling, September 21, 1903.*

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No. 13.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received November 9.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, dated the 15th October, relative to the Thibetan negotiations.

Copy has been sent to the Intelligence Division, War Office.

*India Office, November 7, 1903.*

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Inclosure 1 in No. 13.

*Political Diary of the Thibet Frontier Commission.*

(Confidential.)

*September 21, 1903.*—Mr. Hayden, of the Geological Survey, arrived to-day. He has examined the fossils which Mr. White had collected, and says they belong to the Jurassic period and very similar to those found in the Spiti shales. As they are marine, they prove, of course, that all this country was some millions of years ago under the sea. Mr. Hayden says that the geological formation about here is not such as would be favourable for the discovery of gold. He has entered Thibet before at the head of the Sutlej Valley, and says the country there is very similar to this.

*September 22.*—Lieutenant Mackie returned to Tangu (Major Bretherton returned there on the 20th).

Ba-du-la, the Shigatse Deputy, came to see Captain O'Connor, who, by direction, informed him of the contents of the letter from the Nepalese Minister to the Lhasa Council. He made no remark on it, but Captain O'Connor says he spoke of the Nepalese as being very friendly with the Thibetans.



The villagers are ploughing the land from which they have recently cut the crops.

A telegram was received from Colonel Ravenshaw, saying that the Nepalese were sending the yaks by Darjeeling and Sikkim. I telegraphed back that they would all die if they came that way, and recommended that they should be sent by the Tipta-la, and I would have them met at the frontier.

September 24.—Major Prain, I.M.S., Director of the Botanical Gardens, Calcutta, and Captain Walton, I.M.S., arrived to-day.

A telegram was received from the Bengal Government, saying that the Bhutanese were inclined to side with the Thibetans.

Captain Parr received a letter from the Amban, saying that he intended to come here, but that he had not received an answer yet from the Dalai Lama in regard to the appointment of Thibetan Representatives.

September 26.—I accompanied Major Prain and Mr. Hayden on an expedition to the hot springs. On the way we met four Thibetans with carpets thrown over their backs. On our offering to buy the carpets, if they would bring them to camp, they said they were not allowed to go near the camp, but had to take everything they had for sale to the Jongpen first, and, needless to say, he would take a good commission from them before he would allow them to sell at all. We accordingly paid them money on the spot and carried off the carpets on our ponies. The Thibetans were delighted, and we went away feeling that this was only one more object-lesson proving that the Thibetans are perfectly ready to be friendly with us and to do business with us, if only the Lamas and officials did not keep us apart.

Captain Parr informed me that Mr. Ho had been greatly delayed on his way to Lhasa, owing to the Thibetans refusing to supply him with carriage, on the grounds that he had failed in the present negotiations, and therefore deserved no assistance from them. This shows both the small respect the Thibetans now have for the Chinese, and also that the negotiations up till now are not considered a success by the opposite party.

I sent to-day the following telegram to Sir Joseph Hooker, the distinguished botanist and first explorer on this frontier:—

“Major Prain, Colonel Younghusband, and officers, Thibet Mission, desire to send their felicitations by telegram from Khamba Jong, and to express their admiration of that zeal displayed by you fifty-five years ago which has enabled them to now follow in your steps, and has inspired them to emulate your devotion to science and to your country.”

(Signed) F. E. YOUNGHUSBAND, Colonel,  
British Commissioner, Thibet Frontier Commission.

*Khamba Jong, September 28, 1903.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 13.

*Colonel Younghusband to Government of India.*

(Confidential.)

*Khamba Jong, September 28, 1903.*

WITH reference to my letter, dated the 21st instant, and previous correspondence, I have the honour to submit the diary of Captain O'Connor for the period 19th to the 26th instant.

Inclosure 3 in No. 13.

*Diary kept by Captain O'Connor during the Thibet Frontier Mission.*

AT 12 o'clock Ba-du-la, the old Jongpen, and the Teling Kusho called. I received them in my tent, and had a long conversation with them. They are very anxious to know the result of the Viceroy's despatch to the Amban; and having heard that Captain Parr has received a letter from the Amban, they came to ask whether this was a reply to the despatch. Having explained to them that this was only a private letter, I proceeded, in the course of conversation, to ask them about Thibet's relations with Nepal. They assured me that the Nepalese and Thibetans were on the friendliest terms, and that they were acquainted with the terms of the Treaty by which Nepal was bound to



help Thibet in case of foreign invasion. On this, I translated to them (as instructed by Colonel Younghusband) the letter from the Nepalese Prime Minister to the Tale Lama, of which a copy has been forwarded to Colonel Younghusband by the Foreign Department. The Tashi Lumpo officials listened with the greatest interest, and appeared to appreciate the force of the Prime Minister's arguments and to understand the general tenour of the letter. When I translated the portion in which the Prime Minister says that he proposes to assist Thibet merely by advice, the Thibetan officers laughed heartily, and said that they were in very much the same position themselves: that the Tashi Lumpo Government was unable to do much more than offer advice to the Lhasa authorities. They made no other remarks upon the contents of the letter, but followed each item of the Prime Minister's "advice" intently, checking off the various paragraphs, and explaining doubtful points to one another. They appeared especially impressed by the concluding paragraph regarding the forbearance of the English in religious matters and the discovery of Buddha's birthplace in Nepal owing to the researches of Englishmen. I asked them what they thought would be done as to sending other representatives from Lhasa. They said that it would be impossible to send any more high officials to Khamba Jong; that the people round about here had already been squeezed to the limits of endurance (neither Chinese nor Thibetan officials pay for any of the supplies provided for themselves, followers, or animals); and that if any more dignitaries should arrive here, the country people would all run away. They think it probable, however, that fresh delegates may be deputed to meet us at Yatung. The Depon, they said, is very ill indeed, and the services of fifty monks have been secured to pray continually for his recovery. After our conversation we all went to inspect the Telegraph Office, which pleased them greatly; and after admiring Mr. Mitter's typewriter, they took their departure. These Shigatse men thoroughly enjoy strolling round our camp, examining such curious objects as glass windows, stoves, sepoy, &c.—it is as great a treat to them as a country fair is to our English rustic. I presented them each with the inevitable photograph which they seem to appreciate more than anything else, and the hospital assistant prescribed for Ba-du-la, who has a boil on his leg.

*September 23.*—Cloudy morning. Some rain fell during the night—.03 inches registered. Maximum temperature, 66 degrees; minimum, 39 degrees.

The Jongpen called during the morning regarding the question of the grazing here. He says that the local people are now bringing in their sheep and goats to graze round about the Jong; and, under the circumstances, he thinks some fresh arrangement is desirable concerning the rent which we are paying for the grazing. He assumed a very humble tone (quite different from his original truculent attitude); said that he had heard that we had complained at paying so high a price for the grazing rights, and that for the future he did not want to take anything from us at all. As instructed by Colonel Younghusband, I told him that we quite understood that the peasants required the use of their grazing lands, and that, under the circumstances, we should raise no objection to their flocks coming here, but would, with his consent, reduce the rate we were paying for the grazing to one-half; and that as regards the amount paid, we were giving it not only for the grazing rights, but also in consideration of the Jongpen's own services in procuring grain, sheep, &c., for us. The Jongpen seemed pleased with this answer, and went off saying that he would consult with his tenants, and would give us an answer on the following day. He says that the Depon has asked for leave to return to Lhasa, but has not yet received permission to do so.

*September 26.*—About 12 o'clock the Teling Kusho called on me and we had an hour's chat on general topics. A little later the old and present Jongpens joined us, and the question of the payment for the Khamba Jong grazing was settled. The Jongpen said that he had talked the matter over with Ba-du-la and the other Tashi Lumpo officials, and that they had instructed him not to take any further rent from us. I told him that Colonel Younghusband would be very pleased to continue to make him a monthly allowance not only for the grazing, but in consideration of his other services to us. But the Jongpen said that he could take no further monthly payment. If we would pay him up to date at the original rate, and continue to purchase such supplies as he could give us, he would be very well satisfied. I agreed to do this, but begged him to remember that the arrangement was of his own choice, and not due to any desire on our part to put an end to the bargain; and I told him that later on, if he found that his peasants were being oppressed or were grumbling about their grazing rights, he should come to us and let us know, in order that we might be able to make a fresh arrangement.

He appeared very grateful, and thanked me profusely. In fact, his demeanour is far more subdued than it was when we first made his acquaintance. There can be no



doubt that he and the other local people cannot help contrasting our methods very favourably with those of their own and the Chinese officials.

A disagreeable case about a woman has cropped up here, which illustrates Chinese methods in Thibet. One of our syces (a Thibetan) appears to have seduced a woman who was living with one of the Chinese soldiers at Gain, and to have brought her into Khamba village. Search was made for the woman, and she and the syce were found together in the village. The syce was sent back to camp under a Chinese escort, and the woman confined in the Jong. Yesterday she was taken out into the village street, and one of the Chinese soldiers cut her nose off with a razor. He is said (by a trustworthy informant) to have been acting under the orders of the petty Chinese officer of the Gain post, who has now taken up his quarters here and makes himself very officious.

After the operation the unfortunate woman, streaming with blood, was taken back into the Jong. She will presently be beaten, and sent away to Shigatse. My servant, an excitable young Lhasa man, saw the whole thing, and rushed in to tell me about it. He was very excited, and abused the Chinese freely. He says there is a strong feeling against them all over Thibet, and it is only the influence of the Lhasa monks (whom they subsidize) that keeps them in the country at all. He also brought me a message from the Abbot (to whom I had sent some picture papers), expressing his thanks, and asking for a photograph of Colonel Younghusband, Mr. White, and myself, which, he says, he would value highly, and that in after years it would remind him of the part he had taken in worldly affairs.

Mr. Harrison, the Postmaster-General of Bengal, arrived in camp in the evening from Tangu.

A trustworthy informant says that the new Amban is now on his way to Lhasa with an escort of 2,000 soldiers. My Thibetan informants confirm his approach, but rather discount the number of soldiers. He is said to be about half-way between Ta-t sien-lu and Lhasa.

(Signed) W. F. O'CONNOR.

*Khamba Jong, September 27, 1903.*

Inclosure 4 in No. 13.

*Government of India to Colonel Younghusband.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Simla, October 6, 1903.*

IN case advance to Chumbi is sanctioned, some 3,500 yaks will be required for transport on Jelap route. Resident in Nepal has been asked whether Darbar can supply this number, and by what date they could be collected with drivers at Phallut, near Darjeeling. Please report what would be most suitable route by which to move the yaks on from Phallut to the point on the Jelap route at which they would be required.

Inclosure 5 in No. 13.

*Resident in Nepal to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Segowlie, October 7, 1903.*

IF more yaks are required, Darbar find they will require one month's notice for 2,000, two to three months' notice for next 2,000, and proportionate increase of notice up to 8,000, as animals have to be collected from distances on the frontier.

(Repeated to Colonel Younghusband.)



## Inclosure 6 in No. 13.

*Colonel Younghusband to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Khamba Jong, October 7, 1903.*

I PROPOSE to strengthen my escort by 100 men from the supports as soon as transport can be conveniently obtained.

## Inclosure 7 in No. 13.

*Colonel Younghusband to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Khamba Jong, October 8, 1903.*

VICEROY'S despatch reached Amban one month ago, and no reply has yet been received, though letters from Lhasa can reach here in four days. Mission has been here three months without being able to even commence negotiations. Chinese show indifference and incompetence, and Thibetans show pure obstruction. Present Amban is acknowledged by even Chinese to be weak and incompetent, and his Assistant Amban was allowed to resign some months ago. New Amban, though appointed last December, will only leave Chengtu to-day, and cannot reach frontier before January. New Assistant Amban has been given sick leave before even joining his post. Mr. Ho, though I had given him the very serious warning mentioned in my diaries of the 1st and 2nd September, made no haste to proceed to Lhasa, but loitered at Phari. Wai-wu Pu could send a telegram to Amban, on Sir E. Satow's warning of the 25th September, through here, to Lhasa, and I might by now have heard from Amban in regard to it, but no such telegram has passed through here. Even if the Chinese show less indifference, they could do little with the Thibetans. Mr. Ho was refused transport by the Thibetans, and Colonel Chao tells me new Amban could not bring large number of troops to Thibet, as Thibetans would refuse to furnish transport and supplies. As regards the attitude of Thibetans, though people round here and the Shigatse Deputies are perfectly friendly, the Lhasa authorities are as obstructive as ever. The Lhasa Delegates, since the first formal visits, have refused all communication, social or official, with me. The two prisoners remain in custody, and Thibetan troops line all the heights between here and Gyangtse or Shigatse. The Thibetans refuse to negotiate here, and are preparing to resist any advance further into Thibet. At the same time reports from many different quarters indicate the presence of Russians in Northern and North-eastern Thibet. There is much probability that Siberian Buriat Lamas are present in Lhasa, and there is the certainty testified by the Thibetans, though anxious to keep the Russians out of Lhasa in ordinary time, have been taught to rely on their support in case of trouble with us. After the Sikkim war, we showed moderation in hopes of good results ensuing from a considerate need. In following year we continued the same patient policy. During the past three months I have exercised all the patience of which I am capable. The results of all this moderation are nil, and I can no longer hold out any hope to Government of a peaceful solution of this question.

## Inclosure 8 in No. 13.

*Government of India to Resident in Nepal.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Simla, October 9, 1903.*

YOUR telegram dated 7th October.

Please arrange with Darbar at once to collect as many yaks, up to limit of 3,500, as possible. Further communication will be made to you regarding exact point at which they should be assembled, and as to further requirements.



## Inclosure 9 in No. 13.

*Colonel Younghusband to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Khamba Jong, October 10, 1903.*

REPORT received and confirmed by Deputy Commissioner, Darjeeling, that Lhasa Government have forbidden Thibetan to sell ponies and mules at Kalimpong Fair this year. I hear they have also forbidden sale of wool, but so far Deputy Commissioner has not heard of this report.

## Inclosure 10 in No. 13.

*Colonel Younghusband to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Khamba Jong, October 10, 1903.*

REPRESENTATION received from missionaries in Lachung, saying the people are paralysed with fear at the seizure of the two men by the Shigatse people three months ago, who, it is reported, have been tortured and cut in pieces. Missionaries represent that Lachung people are largely dependent on trade with Shigatse, but now dare not cross the border; and the distress of the people is so great that they have been compelled to voice the feelings of the people. I have informed missionaries of the action which has already been taken by Government.

## Inclosure 11 in No. 13.

*Colonel Younghusband to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Tangu, October 11, 1903.*

ONE-HUNDRED men from support joined escort at Khamba Jong to-day.

## Inclosure 12 in No. 13.

*Government of India to Colonel Younghusband.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Simla, October 11, 1903.*

YOUR telegram of 7th October.

General question awaits Viceroy's return on 14th; but if immediate strengthening of your escort is desirable, you can act as proposed.

## No. 14.

*The Marquess of Lansdowne to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 179. Secret.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Foreign Office, November 10, 1903.*

WITH reference to Government of India's telegram of the 4th November respecting Thibetan negotiations. In view of recent conduct of the Thibetans, His Majesty's Government feel it impossible for them not to take action.

The advance of the Mission to Gyantze has therefore been sanctioned; but Mission is to withdraw as soon as reparation has been obtained, as this step is to be taken purely for purpose of obtaining satisfaction.

Reasons given in telegram from Government of India should be made use of, should you be addressed by Chinese Government with regard to advance.



## No. 15.

*Wai-wu Pu to Ching Ta-jén.—(Communicated by Ching Ta-jén, November 11.)*

(Translation.)

(Telegraphic.)

*Peking, November 9, 1903.*

YOUR telegram of the 5th instant has been received.

Sometime ago an Edict was issued commanding Yewtai, the new Chinese Resident in Thibet, to repair to his post with all possible dispatch, and negotiate with the British Commissioners a settlement of all pending questions.

A telegram has also been sent to the present Resident, directing him to convey to the Thibetan Government a command from the Emperor, strictly enjoining on them the observance of a more correct attitude towards the British Commissioners, and the avoidance of further disturbances.

You will acquaint Lord Lansdowne of this, and express to him the hope of the Wai-wu Pu that His Majesty's Government will not sanction the advance of Colonel Younghusband's Mission, but order it to await the arrival of the new Amban when the questions at issue can be settled in an amicable manner.

## No. 16.

*Mr. Spring-Rice to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received November 16.)*

(No. 387.)

My Lord,

*St. Petersburg, November 12, 1903.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 366 of the 29th ultimo, on the subject of Thibet, I have the honour to inclose herewith translation of an article by Prince Oukhtomsky, elicited by the announcement in the press of the despatch of a British force into Thibet.

Prince Oukhtomsky's violent language is in keeping with his known views as to the necessity of keeping up the closest relations with the chief authority of the Buddhist Church. No other newspaper of importance has referred to the matter, although the question has always excited a considerable amount of interest here, and although, according to information which has reached me, the news of the British expedition has evoked much hostile comment. It may therefore be supposed that a warning has been conveyed to the press.

The article is interesting, viewed in the light of Mr. Hardinge's despatch No. 349, Secret, of the 10th November, 1902, and Mr. Campbell's recent Report (China Print, 3rd September, section 1, pp. 27 and 34). The possession of influence in Lhasa must be of the greatest importance to the Power which desires to control Mongolia, e.g., since 1757 the Bogdos of Urga, who enjoy the chief authority in Mongolia, have always been Thibetans.

The article seems to imply that a promise of "moral support against the English" has not yet been given, although the Thibetans are asking for it; and that this hope is a powerful engine for increasing Russian influence in the Buddhist world.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

CECIL SPRING-RICE.

Inclosure in No. 16.

*Extract from the Russian "St. Petersburg Gazette," October 24 (November 6), 1903.*

ENGLAND, RUSSIA, AND THIBET.

(Translation.)

OUR press has passed over in silence last night's sensational telegram to the effect that the English are preparing, in the near future, to move two or three regiments of pioneers and sappers through the snowy fastnesses of mysterious Thibet. If this is true, the fact is of vast moment.



No. 15\*.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received November 11.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, dated the 22nd October, relative to the Thibetan Regulations.

Copy has been sent to the Intelligence Division, War Office.

*India Office, November 10, 1903.*

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Inclosure 1 in No. 15\*.

*Colonel Younghusband to Government of India.*

(Confidential.)

*Khamba Jong, October 7, 1903.*

WITH reference to my letter dated the 5th October, 1903, and previous correspondence, I have the honour to submit the diary of Captain O'Connor for the 4th and 5th October, 1903.

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Inclosure 2 in No. 15\*.

*Diary kept by Captain O'Connor during the Thibet Frontier Mission.*

October 4, 1903.—Clear morning, but clouds over the Sikkim frontier. Maximum temperature 59°; minimum 34·5°.

The only news is that the Depon is starting in a day or two for his country place near Shigatse. He requires change of air, and hopes to shake off his illness in fresh surroundings.

October 5.—Bright clear morning. Some scattered clouds still on the mountains to the south. Maximum temperature 56·5°; minimum 28·4°.

I received orders to leave Khamba Jong for Darjeeling and started off my kit about noon. Captain Cullen rode over from Tangu. In the afternoon the Te-ling Kusho and the old Jongpen called, bringing back the gold watch which Colonel Younghusband had sent to the Abbot as a present for the Penchen Rinpoche. They said that the Abbot and Ba-du-la had consulted together, and had decided that, under present circumstances, it would be best not to accept the watch; as, until the negotiations here had assumed a satisfactory footing, the acceptance of such a present might convey a false impression to the Thibetans in general, and might lead them to harbour unjust suspicions regarding the Tashi Lama. Accordingly, they returned the watch, and asked that its presentation might be deferred until a more suitable opportunity. In reply to this, I said that hitherto the Tashi Lumpo people and ourselves had lived on very friendly terms at Khamba Jong, had exchanged visits and presents, and had in every respect agreed admirably. The return of the watch would certainly be regarded by Colonel Younghusband as an act indicating suspicion and scarcely of a friendly nature; and I begged them to reconsider their decision. After some argument they agreed to place my views before the Abbot and Ba-du-la, but the Te-ling Kusho objected to being the bearer of the watch a second time. So I sent my Thibetan clerk with them to return the watch, and, if possible, to induce them to accept it. This, however, they declined to do and returned it.

The Te-ling Kusho leaves here to-morrow or the next day for a short visit to his estate at Te-ling.

Mr. Hayden started off early this morning for a trip northwards, where he hopes to penetrate into the slopes of the central chain.

(Signed)

W. F. O'CONNOR, *Captain.*

*Khamba Jong, October 6, 1903.*



Inclosure 3 in No. 15\*.

*Colonel Younghusband to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.)

October 16, 1903.

WHEREABOUTS of two Lachung men not known. Report says they have been killed.

Inclosure 4 in No. 15\*.

*British Joint Commissioner to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.)

October 18, 1903.

PLEASE consider with Younghusband desirability of sending two native officers, Gourka Regiment, assist Nepaulese bringing yaks Khamba Jong. I think that it is necessary to send small escort for yaks to Tipta La. It is very important that no hitch should arise with first lot of yaks which may prevent others following.

Inclosure 5 in No. 15\*.

*Colonel Younghusband to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.)

October 18, 1903.

HARK JANG very pessimistic regarding supply of yaks, and thinks it would take six weeks for 2,000 to be collected in Wallung. I would not recommend much reliance being placed upon him for arrangements for yaks for initial part of movement, though these may be available for subsequent portion.

Inclosure 6 in No. 15\*.

*Colonel Younghusband to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.)

October 18, 1903.

DEPUTY Commissioner, Darjeeling, reports no wool is arriving from Thibet, though usually 2,000 maunds reach Kalimpong by this date. This confirms report I heard at Khamba Jong that Thibetans have stopped trade in wool, as well as ponies and mules.

Inclosure 7 in No. 15\*.

(Indorsed by Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling.)

*Darjeeling, October 12, 1903.*

COPY of the accompanying document submitted to the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, for information.

*Deputy Commissioner Garrett to Government of Bengal.*

*Darjeeling, October 10, 1903.*

I have the honour to inform you that one Jhampa, a Thibetan, arrived at Ghoom from Lhasa yesterday morning. I had a long interview with him to-day, and record below the information which I gathered from him.

2. He is an inhabitant of Thebung-Gang in Lhasa, and has been living the last three years there with his parents; formerly he was a monk in the Depon Monastery, but he left it seven years ago, and has since been working as a coolie. He has expressed his willingness to return to Thibet and collect information for us, if he is instructed to do so. He seemed very nervous of being seen by other Thibetans when he was being interviewed by me, and, at his request, I had all the doors and windows closed.



3. He left Lhasa seventeen or eighteen days ago, and went first to Gyangtse, the journey taking him about eight days. He only remained there one night, but he saw immense stores of wheat and barley being collected there. He went thence to Shigatse, a two days' journey, on the way passing through Pena and Gadung (the former 23 and the latter 30 miles from Gyangtse), at both of which places he saw from sixty to eighty large houses full of food-grains. At Shigatse he remained two days, and he says that the stores of wheat and barley there were even larger than at Gyangtse. The ordinary garrison at Shigatse, 500 men, had been dispatched in the direction of Khamba Jong before he arrived; recruitment was going on briskly, and 1,000 more soldiers were expected to follow the regular garrison the day after he left. From Shigatse he went to Khamba Jong, meaning to proceed thence direct into the north of Sikkim, but the Thibetan officers refused to let him pass on. On his way from Shigatse to Khamba Jong, and about 18 and 15 miles from the latter place, he saw two bodies of Thibetan troops, which he estimates as consisting of about 1,000 and 500 men, respectively; he was not allowed to go up to them, but he said they were entrenched behind sangars and temporary fortifications, and there were piquets of men on the heights looking towards Khamba Jong; so far as he was able to see, all these men were armed with the old-fashioned Thibetan rifles. From Khamba Jong he came via Phari, the Jelap Pass, and Kalimpong to Ghoom. At Phari he met a Bhutan officer by name Tasho-Gorapa; this man, whom he knew before, told him that the Bhutanese had promised to come to the assistance of the Thibetans whenever they were asked to do so. He said that it seemed to be generally known in Thibet that the Nepaulese were on the side of the English, and would not assist the Thibetans.

4. I questioned my informant closely about some of the routes in Thibet. He says he has never himself travelled direct between Gyangtse and Khamba Jong, but there is a fairly good road between these two places passable by ponies throughout, and there are no very high passes; it is possible to get through even in the winter, when there is snow on the ground. Between Gyangtse and Phari there is only one high pass known as Tang La, and this can be crossed with a little difficulty even in the winter.

5. There is only one plains-man, gun-maker, left in Thibet, but he has forty Thibetan assistants. In June last, through the help of a friend of his who is a servant of the Shape Sheda, my informant saw that gentleman and one Rambese making an inspection of the arms at the gun factory. The inspection took some seven days. 3,000 or 4,000 rifles (breech-loaders) and 500 pistols were laid out in lines. He afterwards heard from his friend that out of all these weapons only 400 were found serviceable, and the rest were useless. As a result of the inspection, several of the gun-makers were punished.

6. My informant states that the real reason why the Thibetans are hanging back at present is that they are waiting for the advent of winter, during which season they expect to be able to defeat the British troops easily. In July last, during the annual sacred service of the Buddhists called Dzam-ling-Tsi-Sang, the Depon-Neehung oracle prophesied that, if hostilities were not commenced until November or December, the Thibetans would win, but if it appeared impossible to postpone war until then, it would be better to come to an amicable arrangement. All the Lamas, including the Dalai Lama, are now deeply engaged in the study of witchcraft, with a view to enabling themselves to deal effectively with the enemy.

7. It is reported that the Chinese and Thibetan soldiers are on bad terms, and are not likely to combine. This confirms the information on this point given in my last Confidential Report. There is a rumour in Lhasa that 20,000 Buriats will shortly arrive from Mongolia, to assist the Thibetans. It is also rumoured that 3,000 soldiers are expected in Lhasa about the end of the month from Mang-Khama, a place about three months' journey to the east. My informant has heard of no Russians being in, or in the neighbourhood of, Lhasa.

8. At Yatung my informant heard that the Thibetan Government had forbidden traders to attend the forthcoming Kalimpong "mela." The wool merchants petitioned against this order on the ground that they had already made arrangements, and they were informed that, provided that hostilities did not break out in the meantime, they might attend this year's fair.

9. Jhampa will remain on in Darjeeling for the present, and will be available for any purpose for which he may be required.



Inclosure 8 in No. 15\*.

(Indorsed by Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling.)

*Darjeeling, October 13, 1903.*

COPY of the accompanying document submitted to the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, for information.

*Deputy Commissioner Garrett to Government of Bengal.*

*Darjeeling, October 13, 1903.*

I have the honour to submit herewith my Confidential Report for the week ending on Saturday, the 10th October, 1903.

2. The second of the two Russians mentioned in paragraph 2 of my letter, dated the 5th instant, M. Gouleshambaroff, left Darjeeling for Calcutta on the 7th instant. During the last few days of his stay he did not leave his hotel, and he received no visits from any one. Neither of the Russians applied for passes to visit any of the bungalows in the district.

3. I have received information from several independent sources that the Dalai Lama has entirely given up the idea of his proposed visit to Shigatse.

4. In paragraph 4 of my letter dated the 5th October, 1903, I gave certain information which had been gathered from one Lo-Tou, Chinaman. It was reported to me that he intended to visit Darjeeling in a few days, but when he did not arrive, I wired for information about him, and was informed that he had given up his intention of coming in here. I then wrote to Mr. Bell, and asked him to interview Lo-Tou and question him fully on certain specified points. I received Mr. Bell's reply last night, and note below the substance of the information obtained by him. Lo-Tou, himself had not been in the direction of Gyangtse and Khamba Jong; his information was derived from five Chinese soldiers whom he met at Chhoten-Karpo (8 miles from Rinchengong), returning from Khamba Jong. They informed him that there are bodies of Thibetan troops between Khamba Jong and Gyangtse, between Khamba Jong and Shigatse, and between Gyangtse and Shigatse; along the first and second of these routes, the soldiers are mostly village levies; they are mostly armed with the old-fashioned Thibetan rifles, though they have a few Lbassa-made English pattern guns with them. Lo-Tou did not ask, or was not informed, as to the number of troops, but they are said to occupy commanding positions (though the exact places are not known) along the routes mentioned, with the main idea of preventing the British from penetrating further into Thibet; it is also said that their temper is such that they might make an attack upon the British Mission at Khamba Jong at any time. Lo-Tou also stated that there is very bad feeling between the Chinese and Thibetan soldiers, the latter being very jealous of the former, who still hold many privileges in Thibet, and harass the villagers; the Chinese soldiers say that they would as soon fight against the Thibetans as for them; the Thibetan soldiers say that as soon as they drive out the British they will kill all the Chinamen in Thibet.

5. The above information supports to a great extent that furnished by Jhampa and reported in my letter; the sources are entirely different, one being Chinese, and the other Thibetan. Another Thibetan, by name Nima, has recently come in to Darjeeling; I have done my best to get information out of him, but he is very reticent, and persists in saying that no preparations for war are being made in Thibet.



This important neutral zone, which has hindered our political rivals from exercising direct pressure on the interior of China, from bringing influence to bear on Mongolia and Turkestan, and from lending assistance to the aggressive appetite of Japan—the whole of this region, which up till now has proved unassailable by European adventurers, will immediately cease to be a *res nullius*, indeed, has already, for the Court of Peking ceased to bear that character. The labours of our intrepid explorers of the Thibetan region, the heavy sacrifices of the Russian Lamaite pilgrims who have visited this their promised land, the hopes of the Thibetans themselves to obtain some day our veto, or at least our moral support, in protecting them from the English—all these will vanish and leave not a rack behind, and their disappearance will serve as the beginning of the end, and for the basis of hostile intrigues against Russia. Uncrowning us before the eyes of the northern Buddhist world, and seizing upon authority in the country where the Dalai Lama holds spiritual sway and seeks for an opportunity to cement a closer friendship with us—the only Power that can afford him real aid without at the same time threatening him—England is, with swift and unfaltering steps, advancing in the expectation of some conflagration in the Near or the Far East to the triumph of her policy, which has already cost us so dear in Asia.

The irruption of the English into defenceless Thibet, with the sole object of doing an injury to Russia by scattering widecast the seeds of disorder right up to the frontiers of her Siberian territories—where the native population, sensitive to every political event and disturbed by agrarian and social reforms, is now passing through a troublous period—such an irruption, although into the nominal limits of the Chinese Empire, which we are obliged on account of our own interests to, as far as possible, protect, would be an unmistakable and insolent challenge to Russia.

Why should we not, before it is too late, render a service to Peking and Lhasa, and protest against the expeditions of Younghusband and Macdonald into the inviolable realm of the Lamas?

## No. 17.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received November 16.)*

(No. 251.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, November 16, 1903.*

## SIKKIM-THIBET Frontier Mission.

On same day as I received your Lordship's telegram No. 179, Prince Ching sent to say that he had received a telegram from Chinese Minister in London, to the effect that troops were to be sent into Thibet, and that this information had been confirmed by your Lordship.

I said that I had heard nothing official, and would let him know when I did. He wished me to ask your Lordship to order that the expedition should be stopped.

On the 5th November, Reuter had telegraphed that Colonel Macdonald was about to advance into Thibet in command of a large force.

I have to-day received telegrams from Indian Government of the 26th ultimo and the 3rd and 4th instant.

Since the end of November is the earliest date at which advance can be commenced, action in the sense of the last paragraph of your Lordship's telegram would seem premature.

I might say, however, that the patience of the Indian Government is exhausted by the refusal of the Thibetans to surrender the two British subjects who were carried off and the seizure of Nepaulese transport animals, and that, unless the Chinese Government can at once put the necessary pressure on the Lhasa authorities, the Indian Government will take measures to exact redress.



No. 18.

*The Marquess of Lansdowne to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 182.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Foreign Office, November 16, 1903.*

THIBET. Your telegram of to-day, No. 251.

Chinese Government have sent a telegram to the Chinese Minister, which he has communicated to me, stating that they have instructed the Resident at Lhasa to enjoin on the Thibetan Government the observance of a more correct attitude towards the British Commissioners, and expressing the hope that His Majesty's Government will countermand the advance of Colonel Younghusband, and direct him to await the arrival of the new Amban, who has been instructed to proceed to his post as quickly as possible, to negotiate the settlement of all pending questions.

Chinese Minister has been informed, in reply, that His Majesty's Government have learnt by experience that the Thibetans systematically disregard the injunctions of the Emperor and the Chinese Government, who have no real influence in restraining them from acts such as those of which His Majesty's Government complain.

We have treated the Thibetans with the utmost forbearance, but their recent proceedings compel us to exact satisfaction, and we cannot remain inactive until the arrival of the new Amban, who has unnecessarily protracted his journey.

Chinese Minister has also been informed that I could not undertake to suggest any further delay, a false impression having already been created by our inaction.

I request that you will hold language of a similar import to the Chinese Government.

No. 19.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received November 17.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, dated the 29th October, relative to the Thibetan negotiations.

Copy has been sent to the Intelligence Division, War Office.

*India Office, November 16, 1903.*

Inclosure 1 in No. 19.

*Lieutenant-Colonel Ravenshaw to Government of India.**The Residency, Nepal, October 15, 1903.*

WITH reference to correspondence ending with Foreign Department indorsement, dated the 6th October, 1903, I have the honour to send herewith, for the information of the Government of India, a translation of a letter, dated the 3rd August, 1903, and of its inclosures, received by the Prime Minister from the Nepalese Representative at Lhasa, regarding Thibetan affairs.

2. I beg that a printed copy of these papers may kindly be supplied to me.

Inclosure 2 in No. 19.

*Letter from the Nepal Representative at Lhasa.*

(Translation.)

WITH due respect, I beg to submit in the following lines the news that I have heard and been able to gather here for your Highness' information:—

I beg to inclose herein, for your Highness' perusal, a Perbatia translation of a



paper brought to me by a clerk of the Chinese Yamên. In handing over the paper to me the clerk said that the Kazies of the Kasyal called at the Yamên for an interview with the Amba, to whom they handed over a "Wangsew" (Memorandum) from the Chhongdui Council, with a request to move in the matter dealt with therein in reconciliation with the decision arrived at by the Council as set forth in the said Memorandum. The Amba wanted it to be translated into Chinese, which was done forthwith. As both the original and the translation of the Memorandum had to be laid before the Amba then and there, the clerk says he could not take a copy of it, but has attempted to write out the contents thereof from memory and brought the same to me.

According to this clerk and a clerk of the Nechang, the Amba, in the course of conversation during this interview, tried to impress upon the Kazies the scope of the British power, which has been able to cope with that of His Majesty the Emperor of China so well as to badly corner even His Majesty, not to speak of others, and at the same time expressed his apprehension of some serious complication arising by their precipitation towards making hostile preparation against such a powerful British, who could show in deeds what they have expressed in words. The Amba then, after briefly reviewing the events of the last war, which did not in any way turn to advantage to Thibet, but which, on the contrary, drew the British forces up to a place called Chhomphel, below Fari, and reiterating his conviction that it would forebode no good should the fact of such hostile preparation having been made by the Thibetans come to the knowledge of the British, said that he has dispatched a telegram to his Excellency the Viceroy of India, and has instructed Hotarin Fapoon to try his best to carry on the business as amicably as might be possible, so that the Kazies would do well to bear this in mind and do their best to arrive at an amicable settlement by diplomatic means, instead of creating a hubbub in the hostile direction, because to none has war been easy, fraught as it was with various sorts of troubles to the people; that, if the Kazies would listen to his advice, he must say that it would never do them good to bustle in making warlike preparations; but, on the other hand, should it be found necessary for him and the Sathay Kazi to join the Boundary Commission for further negotiation, it would be incumbent on them to go for the purpose.

The Kazies replied that they have submitted to him (the Amba) the Memorandum from the Chhongdui Council setting forth the decision they have arrived at in it; that if to the Thibetans, whose sole aim was to hold on the territory which was theirs, the British wanted to push them out, circumstances compelled them to do what best they could.

The Amba thereupon said that he has given the best advice he could, and, consequently, should any act on the part of the Thibetans in contravention to it lead to any complication, he would hold himself free from any blame arising therefrom.

After this there was a private talk for a while between the Amba and the Kazies, in which none other except an interpreter was present. The interview ended and the Kazies returned. The next day the Kazies held a private consultation in the Kasyal office, and issued orders to the Jhompons of different stations to assemble at Lhasa only such of the sepoys as have their homes far away from Lhasa, but simply to warn those that remained in close proximity of Lhasa to be in readiness with their arms and ammunition for mobilization at a moment's notice when required. There was also a talk of sending in a day or two 200 picked sepoys from among the 1,000 now at Lhasa to look after the safety of the Dhaibun who was on the Boundary Commission. The Ramba Dhaibun is going towards Gyanchi.

The said clerk of the Nechang adds that 200 rifles of Martini-Henry pattern, manufactured locally at the Teep arsenal, with necessary ammunition, have been sent towards Gyanchi.

The man whom I had sent towards Yangwachen on the north has returned with the news that there were no foreigners at the place, but he met the Thibetans on that side armed with fire-arms, "chyapsa" (a kind of sword), and spears, continually moving towards Gyanchi, and that he met, on the day of his arrival at Lhasa at a bridge known as Thisam, eighteen cases of rifles that were being taken away towards Gyanchi.

The interpreter attached to the Teep arsenal says that when Mr. White and others came to Ghamba and the Dhaibun hindered them from coming across into Thibetan territory, the servants and sepoys of the Dhaibun were beaten by the British, while the Dhaibun himself was placed under arrest. He was, however, subsequently let off, feigning that his status as a Hakim of the Thibetan Government was not known before.

I beg to submit herewith, for your Highness' perusal, the news sent to me by Ditha Firman Gurung from Digarcha.



One Kesang, a new comer from Digarcha, says that the Government buildings and gumbas are being put in repair there; that the High Lama of that place is not at present in his gumba, but has gone out to Lamla, a day's journey towards the west, to perform "puja" (worship); that there is a talk among both the Thibetans and the Chinese there that Thibet has sought the protection of Russia, and that help would come from there; and that three British spies of Lachen Lochung have been arrested by the Jhong at Digarcha.

The interpreter attached to the Teep arsenal says that among the British officers who have come to Ghamba Jhong there is one whom the Chinese call "General Sahib"; that he puts on a laced pique cap, has a big belly, is middle-aged, and without the least semblance of being an Englishman in cuts and features, so that he is suspected of being some high Goorkha officer.

The said interpreter further informs me that, by an order issued from the Kasyal office, the Teep factory is working also at night to finish the ten "janjals" (a kind of gun) now under construction. Four of these have now been finished, while the remaining six are under preparation.

The Khani of Kasyal says that a separate office has been established at Laprang Yulukhang at the temple of Bhagwan, and placed in charge of Sathay Kazi, to deal on all matters concerning the army, their pay, and provisions, and that the Satnay Kazi is now frequently attending it; and also that a similar office is being established on the Digarcha Gyanchi side, of which the Horkhang Kazi has been appointed the chief officer.

Ghesela, a monk, says that the wily Sathay Kazi has managed to stay behind at Lhasa and send the Horkhang Kazi to Digarcha; that it appears that the Sathay Kazi is unwilling to go that side lest the British would argue with him on the point that he was present as a Thibetan Commissioner when the last Convention was made by Heintarin Amba stipulating to open Thibet to British trade after a certain number of years, so that the plea set forth by the Thibetans as to their ignorance of any such Convention having been made would fall to the ground; that probably the British at Ghamba want the presence of the Amba and Sathay Kazi to confer on the boundary dispute simply for this very reason; and that at present not a word is mentioned of a Kazi going to join the Boundary Commission.

The Khani of the Kasyal says that he believes that a fine of 18 gold taks each has been imposed upon the Chharong Dhaibun and Ikehhemu for their having signed and handed over to the British, on the strength of the advice of Fapoon Hotarin, but without obtaining the sanction of their Government, a paper in which they have undertaken to settle all the points in dispute.

The said Kesang says that there was a talk at Digarcha of the British having claimed the territory lying as far as Ghamba Jhong and on the Sikhar Jhong side up to Dokdhu for the Sikkim Rajah, and that they were speaking of proceeding up to these places.

I also beg to inclose herein a Parbatia translation of a Thibetan letter sent to me by a Thibetan, named Namgewangchhuk, who has gone to Ghamba Jhong with Dung Ikehhemu.

Pilgrims from Sopusthan (Mongolia) and Silling are now-a-days coming to Lhasa. I have set men to watch them, and will report later on if there be anything worth communicating about them.

It is said that, in accordance with an order recently issued, those of the Thibetan sepoys who reside in the part of the country close to Lhasa, and who were ordered to assemble there, have been allowed to return to their homes after keeping them at Lhasa for three or four days.

A clerk of the Yamên says that the Amba will send a despatch to His Majesty the Emperor of China stating all what he has to represent with regard to the present state of affairs in Thibet.

The gardener of Norpulinka says that the Khendechhega is not here at present. The mongrel whom I had sent towards Nakchewkha has not yet returned.

Dated Sravan, 19th, Monday, Sambat 1960 (August 3, 1903).



## Inclosure 3 in No. 19.

*Abstract of a Memorandum from the Chhongdui Council (National Assembly) to the Amba at Lhasa.*

(Translation.)

ON receipt of repeated "Wangsews" from you advising the deputation of Commissioners to have mild dealings with British on the frontier matters, Dhun Ikchembu and a Dhaibun were immediately sent for the purpose from here. The British, however, crossed and encroached on the side of the established boundary. The Fapoon Hotarin ought to have joined the said Thibetan officers in hindering the British, but this he did not do, so the two Thibetan officers with their followers had to meet the British at a place near Giopang, and, holding the reins of the horse of the British, had to tell them that they cannot come across the frontier. The British thereupon assailed the Thibetans, beating the servants and sepoys, and intimidating the two Thibetan officers with their swords, rifles, and bayonets, and forced their way up, and are staying down the Jhong at Ghamba.

After this, acting in accordance with the advice of the Fapoon, the Thibetan officers, in company with the Fapoon, went to give some presents to the British officers, who, in return, gave about 500 rupees, which the Thibetan officers refused to accept. The Thibetan officers then returned, but the Fapoon stayed behind with the British officers, whom he visited also the next day. Subsequently, it was arranged that the Chinese, British, and Thibetan officers should each sign a paper undertaking themselves to settle the points in dispute. The Fapoon wrote and signed such a paper in Chinese, and, at the instance of a Llama of Sikkim, the two Thibetan officers also have, of their own accord, put down their signature, for which act of indiscretion a separate order has already been sent, imposing upon them a heavy fine. Now, we beg of you to kindly represent before His Majesty the Emperor of China the conduct of the Fapoon in signing the paper on his own responsibility, and other matters. When the British crossed the frontier they gave out that they have represented the whole matter to the office at Peking. You advised us to have mild dealing. The Fapoon refused to hinder the British from entering Thibetan territory, and, subsequently, conducted himself in the manner he has done. The British entry into Thibet is with their troops. All these facts combined, some of which might even seem to be beyond the scope of possibility, have exhausted our patience and filled our minds with alarm. Consequently, for the sake of our religious principles, we all could not retain our passion, and stay looking on with bound hands, and have issued necessary orders to the Thibetan sepoys, who are under the pay of both Thibet and China, and are, Digarcha, Tingri, and Fari, determined to bear whatever befalls upon us. Accordingly, we beg of you to send necessary orders at once to the Chinese sepoys stationed at those three places, who are charged by His Majesty the Emperor of China to protect and look after the Thibetan territory, and to protect the boundary of Thibet.

It is recorded in our records that, by a concession made to us in the twentieth year of the reign of Emperor Dhakon, we can ask the assistance of all the Chinese troops that are stationed this side of Tarchindo in case of emergency, so we beg of you to kindly make, without fail, the necessary representations before His Majesty the Emperor of China, so that we may have all the necessary assistance in case of a big war breaking out. This we have written with a sincere heart, and have submitted it to you.

This paper was signed by—

The Gadiwala Llama, Auturi Llama, and Hatothus, of the Gelden Gumbas; the heads, Dunkores, Temporal monks, officers and men of all the offices, the officers of the Thibetan troops under Chinese pay; the officers of all the districts in Thibet, and also by the people in general.

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Inclosure 4 in No. 19.

*Ditha Firman Gurung's letter to the Representative, dated Savan Badi 14th, Thursday, Sambat 1960 (July 23, 1903).*

(Translation.)

I BEG to inform you in this the news that I have heard here at Digarcha. People nowadays talk here of a sahib, known as a General, having arrived at Ghamba on Sravan Badi 8th, who has a big belly, puts on a laced pique cap, and has the appearance of a



Goorkha. The Thibetans suspect that he is not an Englishman, but take him to be a Goorkha.

Mr. White and others, who have come to Ghamba first, are said to be telling the Thibetan officers that a General sahib, who is superior to them, has come, and that all further negotiations should be made with him.

I hear that the Thibetan officers are residing at Ghamba Jhong, the Chinese officers in the house of a private individual, and the British in tents pitched in a meadow, while round about the camp of the British troops a wall is being constructed, and has already been raised knee-high.

News came to me to-day of three Sikkimese British spies out of the five, sent by the British officers at Ghamba, having been arrested while they were out hovering in the Bazaar here, and taken away, handcuffed, to the Digarcha Jhong. I at once sent one of our Newar traders, named Lakshminar Sing, to the Jhong with some of his articles of merchandise, pretending that he was going there on his trading business, with a view to obtain as much information as was possible on the subject. He heard that the Jhongs were busy inside, holding a "katchery," and found three men, 30 or 35 years old, kept standing outside on the road with their hands tied up. On inquiry as to where the thieves were who were said to have been caught, the three men in custody were pointed out to him, and he took the opportunity to advance towards these men to talk with them. To his questions the three men replied to the effect that they were Bhotia (Thibetan) residents of Sikkim, where they have their brothers and children; that they left Ghamba five days ago, and reached Digarcha last evening, and were putting up in the house of a Chinese; that they were sent by the British officers at Ghamba to inquire and report as to what articles are saleable at the Digarcha market, and what the Thibetans were doing there; that they were told nothing when caught, and have not been till then asked a single question; and that they were in lively dread of their lives being done away with by the Jhong. He had hardly finished obtaining this information when a Kachepa of the Jhong told him to refrain from talking with the men, which was prohibited. He was then informed that the Jhong had no time to see his things that day, and so, after showing some of his things to the Jhong's wife, he returned.

It is said that there has not been any regular conference between the Boundary Commissioners at Ghamba.

In accordance with the orders received from the Thibetan Government, the sepoy have been ordered to keep ready provisions sufficient to last for three months.

The sepoy that have been assembled here have been sent away towards Domo Fari side to relieve the sepoy there.

The Megelin Dhaibun is also here at present, and it is said that an order has been received here from Lhassa to dispatch 500 sepoy of Digarcha to Pumi for fighting. Megelin, the said Dhaibun, has issued orders to prepare and keep ready sufficient arms, ammunition, and tents, each capable of holding ten men.

I hear that an Englishman, named Heun, with 500 sepoy have come to a place called Kanto. It is said that the British are fortifying themselves at Ghamba.

#### Inclosure 5 in No. 19.

#### *Letter from Namgewanchuk to the Representative.*

(Translation.)

WITH regard to the Boundary Commission that is sitting at Ghamba, after our arrival at Ghummu we, in accordance with an order received, went towards Ghamba. A British officer, named White, with five others, and 200 sepoy, and 200 transport yaks with loads, crossed the Thibetan frontier near Ghyapang. Notwithstanding all our protestations against their entering Thibet, they forced up to Ghamba and encamped there. On Sravan Badi 2nd, the Chinese and the Thibetan officers went to the tent of the British to confer with them. The British officers wanted the two Thibetan officers to produce their credentials vesting them with full authority to settle the points in dispute, so that they might report the same to their Government. The Thibetan officers wanted them to return to Ghyapang, where the required credentials were promised to be shown, and necessary negotiations carried on. On Sravan Badi 8th, another sahib, with ten sepoy and three guns, carried on mules, arrived. The Autari Lama of Sikkim has come with the first batch, working as their guide. By the blessings of the Potala Lama,



Bhimsen, the god of war, and also the other presiding gods, so long as there is peace and serious complications have been with difficulty averted.

It is said that one of the pending questions relates to trade, and that if the parties can come to an understanding about it there is nothing on all the other points in dispute which cannot be amicably settled.

Inclosure 6 in No. 19.

*Thibet Frontier Commission to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Khamba Jong, October 22, 1903.*

MR. PARR, Commissioner, Chinese Customs, Yatung, informs me that he has been hearing to-day, by letter, from trustworthy source at Yatung, that the Thibetan Government has forbidden Thibetans to export anything through Yatung. Mr. Parr leaves to-day for Darjeeling, via Yatung.

Inclosure 7 in No. 19.

*Thibet Frontier Commission to Government of India.*

Telegraphic.)

*Khamba Jong, October 23, 1903.*

AMBAN reply, dated the 17th October, received the 23rd October. Following is the gist of the despatch:—

Mr. Ho was sent because he was versed in frontier question: his rank was not low; but because Viceroy and Governor-General has stated that his rank is too low, and because Mr. Ho has asked for sick leave, therefore Colonel Chao is nominated instead, with Mr. Parr as joint assistant. Amban trusts that this arrangement is in accordance with Viceroy's ideas. Please instruct Younghusband and White to confer with Chao and Parr. Amban has requested the Dalai Lama to send Councillor of State to accompany him; and when this appointment is settled, will bring with him the Councillor of State. Newly-appointed Amban has received Imperial command to hasten, and will arrive in two or three months. Present Amban has requested the Thibetans to fix a date for the departure of the Councillor of State, but time is required to settle matter satisfactorily. Please instruct Colonel Younghusband and Mr. White not to shift their winter quarters, as Thibetan passes are guarded by soldiers. Present Amban's departure for Khamba Jong or newly-appointed Amban's arrival at his post will be announced by despatch.

Inclosure 8 in No. 19.

*Resident in Nepal to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Segowlie, October 24, 1903.*

TWO THOUSAND yaks will be ready in about twenty days. Prime Minister wishes to be informed where and to whom they are to be delivered; animals are approaching junction of Phallut and Wullung Dabour. Prime Minister desires delivery to be taken in batches as animals arrive to prevent hindrance (to) [*sic*] difficulty of grazing. Prime Minister has instructed Colonel Harak Jang to communicate direct with White during Younghusband's absence. Prime Minister also wishes to be informed early if more than 3,500 yaks will be required. I should like to be in a position at an early date to inform Prime Minister clearly on situation. If Nepalese troops are required to co-operate, they could move to Khamba Jong without difficulty via Sikkim, but not via Wullung, because latter route, or their accompanying advance to Lhasa, would mean breaking off indispensable and commercial relations with Thibet and endangering removal of Nepalese Representative and subjects at Lhasa, for whose withdrawal arrangements will have to be made. If Nepalese troops are required during winter, six weeks would probably be necessary to equip them with warm clothing.



Inclosure 9 in No. 19.

*Government of India to Colonel Harak Jang.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Simla, October 24, 1903.*

FROM Colonel Younghusband :—

Please keep the 500 yaks in Wullung for the present, and a further communication will shortly be made to you when arrangements will be ready for escorting them to Khamba Jong.

Inclosure 10 in No. 19.

*Resident in Nepal to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Segowlie, October 26, 1903.*

DARBAR hears that, at desire of Colonel Younghusband, Harak Jang has endeavoured to stop the 500 yaks which were to cross Tipta La Pass. If this has been done, Darbar would like delivery to be taken at Phallut, or any other convenient place on the Darjeeling border, as soon as possible, because of the difficulty regarding the grazing, and also, when you have accumulation, these yaks will hinder delivery of the 3,500 to follow. Of these latter, 500 have already started. Darbar is anxious to avoid accumulation of yaks at any one place.

No. 20.

*The Marquess of Lansdowne to Mr. Spring-Rice.*

(No. 330.)

Sir,

*Foreign Office, November 17, 1903.*

THE Russian Ambassador paid me a visit to-day, and at once spoke in earnest terms of the effect which had been created in Russia by the announcement that Major Younghusband's force was about to advance into Thibet. He was instructed to remind me of the statement which he had made to me on the 8th April as to the manner in which the Russian Government regarded the Thibetan question. They could not help feeling that the invasion of Thibetan territory by a British force was calculated to involve a grave disturbance of the Central Asian situation, and it was most unfortunate that, at the present moment, when we were about to enter into an amicable discussion of our relations at the various points where British and Russian interests were in contact, an event of this kind, so calculated to create mistrust on the part of Russia, should have occurred. Count Benckendorff wished me, however, to understand that the despatch which he had received had crossed, and was therefore not an answer to the telegram in which he had communicated the statement which I had made to him on the 7th instant as to the position of affairs in Thibet, and the steps which His Majesty's Government had determined to take.

I expressed my great surprise at the excitement which the announcement seemed to have created. I had, I said, already pointed out to his Excellency that Thibet was, on the one hand, in close geographical connection with India, and, on the other, far remote from any of Russia's Asiatic possessions. Our interest in Thibetan affairs was therefore wholly different from any which Russia could have in them. I reminded Count Benckendorff that I had already explained to him that we had received the greatest provocation at the hands of the Thibetans, who had not only failed to fulfil their Treaty obligations but had virtually refused to negotiate with us. They had even gone the length of returning the letters which we had addressed to the authorities at Lhasa, and more lately they had seized and, as we believed, barbarously put to death two British subjects, and had also carried off the transport animals which had been provided for the use of the Commission. We had always been reluctant to entangle ourselves in quarrels with the Thibetans, but our forbearance had, I was afraid, led them to believe that we could be ill-treated with impunity. I was firmly convinced that the Russian Government would not have shown as much patience as we had, and that they would have been at Lhasa by this time.



I felt bound to add that it seemed to me beyond measure strange that these protests should be made by the Government of a Power which had, all over the world, never hesitated to encroach upon its neighbours when the circumstances seemed to require it. If the Russian Government had a right to complain of us for taking steps in order to obtain reparation from the Thibetans by advancing into Thibetan territory, what kind of language should we not be entitled to use in regard to Russian encroachments in Manchuria, Turkestan, Persia, and elsewhere.

Count Benckendorff apparently found some difficulty in offering a rejoinder. He asked me whether I had any objection to his saying that we had approved of the advance into Thibetan territory with reluctance, and only because circumstances had made it inevitable, and that our sole object was to obtain satisfaction for the affronts which we had received from the Thibetans.

I said that I had no objection to his making such a statement. He endeavoured to induce me to authorize him to say that we had no intention of bringing about an alteration of the *status quo*, but I objected to committing myself to a statement so vague and liable to misrepresentation, and I insisted upon our absolute right to do what we were doing.

I then asked his Excellency whether he was able to make any proposals to me as to the most convenient way of examining the other questions which he had been authorized by Count Lamsdorff to discuss with me. He did not seem to have any specific suggestions to make. He said the questions to which I referred seemed naturally to group themselves into (1) questions concerning China, in which Russia had a special interest; (2) questions concerning India, in which Great Britain had a special interest; and (3) questions concerning Persia, in which both Powers were interested. He let fall the observation that the Russian Government did not favour any arrangement which would place Northern Persia under Russia and Southern Persia under British influence, but they recognized our predominance in the Persian Gulf, although they would probably require a commercial *debouché* in those waters.

I observed that an arrangement upon the lines thus indicated did not seem to me to present any particular advantages for us, and I asked whether the commercial outlet involved the acquisition of a harbour and a strategic base. Count Benckendorff replied decidedly in the negative.

After the exchange of a few desultory remarks in regard to Manchuria and Afghanistan, I asked his Excellency whether it would not be possible for him to put upon paper as a basis for our discussion his own views as to the different questions at issue. He said that he feared he had not sufficient materials at the Embassy to enable him to do this.

I asked him whether he had any authority to make specific proposals as to any of these questions.

He replied that he had no authority to do so, but that he was instructed to discuss them with me ("d'en causer avec vous").

As I was unable to prolong the conversation, it was decided that we should meet again.

From the want of precision of his Excellency's language and ideas, I am disposed to think that our discussions are not likely to have much result.

I am, &c.

(Signed) LANSLOWNE.

## No. 21.

*The Marquess of Lansdowne to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 349.)

Sir,

*Foreign Office, November 18, 1903.*

ON the 11th instant the Chinese Minister called at this Office and informed Sir Thomas Sanderson that he had at once telegraphed to the Wai-wu Pu the observations respecting Thibet which I had made to him on the 4th instant, and which were recorded in my despatch No. 339 of that date. He stated that he had received in reply the telegram of which a copy is inclosed,\* and he expressed the hope that I might be able to comply with the request of the Wai-wu Pu that the advance of Colonel Younghusband's expedition should be countermanded. On being

\* No. 15.



asked whether he could tell the approximate date of the new Amban's arrival, which had been unnecessarily and inordinately delayed, the Minister said that he was unable to give any information on this point, but observed that the present Amban was instructed to impress upon the Thibetan Government the necessity of observing a more correct attitude towards the British Commissioners, and of avoiding further disturbances.

The Minister has since been informed\* that experience had unfortunately convinced His Majesty's Government that the injunctions of the Emperor and of the Chinese Government are systematically disregarded by the Thibetans, and have no real influence in restraining them from acts such as those of which we complain. They had in the past been treated with the utmost forbearance and their recent proceedings had been of a nature which compelled us to exact satisfaction. It was impossible for His Majesty's Government to remain inactive until the arrival of the new Amban, whose journey had been quite unnecessarily protracted. A false impression had already been created by our inaction, and I could not undertake to suggest to my colleagues any further delay.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) LANSDOWNE.

## No. 22.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received November 19.)*

(No. 255.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Peking, November 19, 1903.

THIBET-SIKKIM Frontier Mission.

Your Lordship's telegram No. 182.

Your Lordship's communication to Chinese Minister seems to have woken Chinese Government out of their apathy. They are telegraphing to the Resident at Lhasa (via India) to proceed to meet Younghusband at once and arrange matters.

## No. 23.

*Chang Ta-jên to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received November 20.)*

My Lord Marquess,

Chinese Legation, London,  
November 19, 1903.

I DID not fail to at once acquaint the Wai-wu Pu of the reply which your Lordship was so good as to instruct the Under-Secretary of State to make to their request that the advance of Colonel Younghusband's Mission to Thibet should be countermanded pending the arrival of the new Amban of Lhasa.

By a telegram dated Peking, 18th November, I am directed to inform your Lordship that, in view of that refractory spirit manifested by the Thibetans, the Wai-wu Pu have again and again telegraphed the new Amban to hasten on by forced marches to his post at Lhasa, and exact obedience from the Government of Thibet to the Imperial commands to forthwith resume negotiations with the British Commissioners.

As regards the two natives of Sikkim who were alleged to have been murdered by the Thibetans, I am directed to say that in a telegram dated 11th October, that has been received from the Amban Yü, who is now at Lhasa, mention is made of the arrest and detention of the two men, but nothing is said of their having been put to death, neither has any information to that effect ever reached the ears of the Wai-wu Pu.

The Wai-wu Pu recognize the forbearance shown by the British authorities towards the Thibetans, also the friendly spirit brought by the British Commissioners to the discussion of frontier questions; and they express the hope that, in consideration of the amicable relations existing between the two countries, His Majesty's Government

\* To Chang Ta-Jên, November 14, 1903. (Private letter. Not printed.)



may yet see their way to accede to their request to stay the further advance of Colonel Younghusband's Mission into Thibetan territory, and order it to await the arrival of the new Amban at Lhasa.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) T. Y. CHANG.

No. 24.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.\*—(Received November 23.)*

(No. 332. Secret.)

My Lord,

*Peking, September 25, 1903.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of the note which I presented to-day to Prince Ch'ing, stating that, in spite of the Dalai Lama having agreed that negotiations should be carried on at Khambajong, the Thibetan Representatives have refused to negotiate there, that they have imprisoned two British subjects at Shigatsze and refuse to release them, and lastly, that they are collecting troops and making hostile preparations.

After his Highness had read the Chinese translation, I repeated to him very carefully the warning conveyed in the final paragraph of your Lordship's telegram No. 157 of the 22nd instant.

In reply, the Prince undertook to dispatch a message at once to Lhasa by way of Batang, to which place he believed the telegraph to extend, but said that it might take twenty or thirty days to arrive at its destination, and as the Chinese Government were sincerely desirous for the settlement of all differences between the Indian Government and Thibet, he hoped His Majesty's Government would await the result.

I urged upon the Prince the great danger there was in delay, and begged him to expedite the messenger by all means in his power.

Prince Ch'ing added that the Chinese Government hoped an improvement would manifest itself as soon as the new Resident arrived at Lhasa, but described the Thibetans as intensely ignorant and obstinate, and very difficult to influence. He explained the delay in the departure of the Resident from Chengtu, the capital of Ssuchuan, by the necessity he was under of collecting a sufficient body of troops to accompany him on his journey and overawe the Thibetans.

As your Lordship will remember, Yutai was appointed in December last, as reported in Mr. Townley's despatch No. 379 of the 16th December, to proceed to his post with all speed in order to negotiate with Mr. White. Yet the Chinese Government immediately afterwards stated that he would not reach his post till July. Three months more have now elapsed, and he is still at Chengtu. According to a telegram which I have recently received from Mr. Hosie, he expects to make a start about the 8th October.

I am disposed to think that the Chinese Government are really desirous of seeing the matter brought to a satisfactory conclusion between India and Thibet, but from Prince Ch'ing's repeated allusions to the obstinate temper of the Thibetans and the difficulty the Resident experiences in dealing with them, they are not sanguine as to the likelihood of Yutai's being able to expedite the negotiations. It seems even not impossible that they may not be unwilling to see their recalcitrant vassals receive a lesson at the hands of the Indian Government.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) ERNEST SATOW.

Inclosure in No. 24.

*Sir E. Satow to Prince Ching,*

Your Highness

*Peking, September 23, 1903.*

IN connection with previous correspondence on the subject of the Thibetan-Sikkim frontier negotiations, I have the honour to inform your Highness that I have to-day received a telegram from His Majesty's Secretary of State, to the effect that in spite



of the fact that the Dalai Lama agreed that the negotiations should be carried on at Khambajong, the Thibetan Representatives refuse to negotiate there. Not only this, but the Thibetan authorities have actually imprisoned at Shigatsze two British subjects and have refused to release them, and they are collecting troops and making preparations for hostilities.

It is quite impossible for His Majesty's Government to permit British subjects to be imprisoned, nor can they allow the Commissioners they have appointed to be treated with the discourtesy shown to them by the Thibetans. The only wish of His Majesty's Government is that more friendly relations should be established with Thibet, and they instruct me to state to your Highness that they expect the Chinese Government to bring immediate pressure to bear on the Dalai Lama so that the two British subjects now imprisoned may be released and the Thibetan Delegates induced to commence negotiations without further delay with the British Commissioners.

I feel confident that I need add no comment to impress upon your Highness the serious nature of the situation that will be created if the Thibetans persist in their present course of action.

I avail, &c.  
(Signed) ERNEST SATOW.

No. 25.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.\*—(Received November 23.)*

(No. 337.)

My Lord,

*Peking, September 30, 1903.*

WITH reference to my despatch to your Lordship No. 332 of the 25th instant, I have the honour to transmit a copy of a note from Prince Ch'ing, in reply to my communication to him, on the subject of the hostile attitude of the Thibetans.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) ERNEST SATOW.

Inclosure in No. 25.

*Prince Ch'ing to Sir E. Satow.*

*Kuang Hsü, 29th moon, 8th month, 7th day,*

*(September 27, 1903).*

Your Excellency,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Excellency's note of the 23rd instant with reference to the Thibet-Sikkim frontier negotiations, informing me of the refusal of the Thibetan Representatives to negotiate at Khambajong, of the imprisonment of two British subjects at Shigatsze, and the hostile attitude generally of the Thibetan authorities.

(Note quoted almost in full).

The Board has already telegraphed to the Imperial Resident in Thibet instructing him to order the Thibetan authorities to release the two British subjects at once and to enjoin upon them to open negotiations without further delay with the British Commissioners at Khambajong.

On receipt of the Resident's reply I will at once communicate with your Excellency.

I avail, &c.  
(Signed) CH'ING.

\* Sent to India.



No. 26.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received November 23.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 23rd November, relative to a report that a Russian party is in Lhasa.

*India Office, November 23, 1903.*

Inclosure in No. 26.

*The Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*November 23, 1903.*

COLONEL YOUNGHUSBAND reports by telegram, dated the 21st November, that he has received information from a reliable source that a Russian party is in Lhasa. Until this news is corroborated it should, I consider, be accepted with caution, though it is quite probably correct.

No. 27.

*The Marquess of Lansdowne to Chang Ta-jén.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, November 23, 1903.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 19th instant, stating that instructions have again and again been telegraphed to the new Amban to hasten to Lhasa, and exact obedience from the Thibetan Government to the command that they should forthwith resume negotiations with the British Commissioners.

You also inform me that the Wai-wu Pu have expressed the hope that His Majesty's Government may yet see their way to stay the further advance of Colonel Younghusband's Mission into Thibetan territory, and order it to await the Amban's arrival.

These intimations do not appear to call for any addition to the observations contained in the communication already made to you on the 14th instant, and referred to in your note.

It is impossible that His Majesty's Government should consent to postpone the measures which the conduct of the Thibetans has constrained them to adopt, pending the arrival of the Amban, which will take place at an uncertain, but, in any case, remote date. Nor is there any reason to anticipate that his appearance on the scene will produce more effect on the Thibetan Government authorities than the previous efforts of the Chinese Government to influence their action.

With regard, however, to the statement that mention is made in a telegram from Amban Yü of the arrest and detention of the two Sikkim men, but that nothing is said by him of their having been put to death, I may point out that the immediate surrender of these men to the British authorities will be the best evidence that they have not, as is commonly supposed, been put to death by the Thibetans.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) LANSDOWNE.

No. 28.

*Chang Ta-jén to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received November 24.)*

My Lord Marquess,

*Chinese Legation, London, November 23, 1903.*

REFERRING to my note of the 19th instant, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I have received another telegram from the Wai-wu Pu, dated Peking, 20th November, stating that the new Amban had arrived at Ta-Chien-loo, and was



hastening on to his post at Lhasa at the accelerated speed at which he had been instructed to travel.

As, however, a considerable time must necessarily elapse before he can reach his destination, and the case is urgent, the present Amban, accompanied by Thibetan officials of rank and influence, has, meanwhile, been instructed to proceed in person to Western Thibet, and, without waiting for the arrival of his successor, there reopen negotiations with the British Commissioners for the prompt settlement of all the questions relating to Thibet now awaiting solution.

The Wai-wu Pu hope that, recognizing the difficult position in which China has been placed by her obstinate and ignorant vassal, His Majesty's Government will be pleased to enjoin on the British Commissioners the exercise of patience and forbearance and thus assist the Amban in bringing the Thibetans to a juster sense of their duties and responsibilities as good neighbours.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) T. J. CHANG.

No. 29.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received November 24.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a Secret letter from the Government of India, dated the 5th instant, relative to affairs on the Sikkim-Thibet frontier.

The inclosures to this letter have not yet been received from the Government of India, but will be forwarded as soon as they arrive.

*India Office, November 24, 1903.*

Inclosure in No. 29.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

Sir,

*Simla, November 5, 1903.*

IT is now six months since we were authorised by His Majesty's Government to constitute a Mission in order to discuss our frontier and commercial relations with the Thibetan Government, and since Khamba Jong, a few miles inside Thibet, across the border of Sikkim, was agreed upon as the place of meeting by the Dalai Lama and the Chinese Government as the suzerain power. The successive telegrams and communications which we have forwarded to you since that date, will have shown not only that no progress has been made in the negotiations, but that they have never even begun. This unsatisfactory position of affairs has been due to the deliberate obstruction of the Thibetan Government and its representatives on the one hand, and to the scarcely less culpable inertia of the Chinese on the other. The Dalai Lama commenced by sending two officials of low rank to represent his Government, and these persons, when they arrived at Khamba Jong, refused to enter into any diplomatic relations with our Commission; they declined to report to the Dalai Lama the observations made by Colonel Younghusband on their return visit, which is the last occasion on which he has seen them, and ever since they have obstinately shut themselves up in the fort and declined intercourse of any description. The Nepalese representative at Lhasa reports that the Amban approached the Dalai Lama some months ago with a view to the deputation of an officer of higher rank in accordance with our demands, but no success has attended these alleged endeavours. Meanwhile, the attitude of the Thibetan Government has been clearly demonstrated by the steps that they have taken in other directions. As far back as the 16th September, we reported to Lord George Hamilton that a National Council had been held at Lhasa which had decided on war, and that preparations were being made by the collection of men and distribution of arms. These preparations have continued ever since. The passes and heights in the neighbourhood of Khamba Jong, agreed to as the place of meeting of a peaceful conference by the Thibetans themselves, are swarming with armed Thibetans. No attack has so far been delivered upon our Mission, which has fortified itself too strongly to render any such attempt worth



making. But all trade with India has been stopped by the Thibetan Government; and our latest news is that they have attacked and dispersed a batch of yaks upon the frontiers of Thibet and Nepal which the Nepalese Durbar were sending to Khamba Jong to assist us in transport and supplies during the forthcoming winter. Perhaps, however, the most conspicuous proof of the hostility of the Thibetan Government and of their contemptuous disregard for the usages of civilization has been the arrest of two British subjects from Lachung at Shigatse, whence they have been deported to Lhasa, and, it is credibly asserted, have been tortured and killed. Frequent representations on our part to the Chinese Commissioners and to the Amban have failed to elicit any reply, or indeed any information as regards the treatment or the fate of these men, as regards whom the worst suspicions seem to be justified.

2. We said just now that the attitude of the Chinese Government appeared to us to be little less culpable than that of the Thibetans. Although they agreed to the dispatch of the Mission as far back as a year ago, although His Majesty's Government have throughout consulted and acted in communication with them, and although they have approved of the action that has hitherto been taken by us, they have made not the smallest effort to facilitate, on the contrary they have done their best to delay, the negotiations. In December of last year we were told that the Amban Yu Tai had been specially appointed to conduct the negotiations, and that he would proceed without delay to Lhasa. By June he had only journeyed as far as Chengtu in Szechuan. Mr. Wilton, our representative from the British Consular Service in China upon the Mission, who met him there, has been in our camp at Khamba Jong for  $2\frac{1}{2}$  months, but the Amban, who had not left Chengtu at the beginning of October, is believed to be still pursuing his leisurely march somewhere in the interior, and is now not expected at Lhasa until next year. The present Amban at Lhasa has shown no greater energy in his actions than his successor in his movements. He has failed to come from Lhasa himself to Khamba Jong: his alleged representations to the Thibetan Government have met with no response; and he has successively deputed to meet and confer with our officers two Chinese officials of low rank, the second (who was sent in reply to our protests against the selection of the first) being of even lower official position than his predecessor.

3. We have borne these accumulated evidences of the undisguised hostility of the Thibetan Government and of the insincerity of the Chinese with patience and forbearance; and no effort has been wanting on the part of our Commissioners to break down the solid wall of antipathy and rudeness that has been raised against them. In one respect Colonel Younghusband has been singularly successful. The attitude of the Thibetan Government appears in no respect to be shared by the Thibetan people. The latter, instead of being suspicious or hostile, are, on the contrary, well-disposed and cheerful. The officers of the Commission in their wanderings in the neighbourhood of the camp at Khamba Jong have everywhere been treated with courtesy by the people, and Colonel Younghusband has established most friendly relations with the abbot and monks of the great monastery of Tashi Lumpo (outside Shigatse), the second most important centre in Thibet. All of these parties concur in attributing the antagonism of the Thibetan Government to the ascendancy of the monks at Lhasa, who fear that the intrusion of any foreign influence will be the beginning of the end of their long reign, and whose attitude is exclusively reactionary. They control the policy of the Dalai Lama, and are quite indifferent to the pressure of the Chinese Government or the Amban. It is our confident belief that, in taking the stronger measures which we have pressed upon His Majesty's Government, we shall be incurring the resistance, not of the Thibetan people who appear to be quite disposed to friendly intercourse and trade, but only of the Thibetan Government.

4. In our telegram of the 16th September, we informed your predecessor of the state of affairs which we have recapitulated in this despatch, and asked for some indication of the views of His Majesty's Government. We received a reply on the 20th September to the effect that a representation would be made at Peking, that His Majesty's Government regarded with grave misgivings the proposal to advance far into the interior of Thibet, and thought that the occupation of the Chumbi valley in the first place would be sufficient. His Majesty's Government are already aware of the result of the representations that were made at Peking. Although the Chinese Ministers expressed the utmost concern at the conduct of the Thibetans and their intention to telegraph to the Amban to exert himself on behalf of the negotiations—they preferred to send this message overland from the Chinese frontier, from which it could not reach Lhasa for at least three weeks; instead of dispatching it by Hong Kong, Singapore, Calcutta, and Khamba Jong (by which route the Chinese Customs officer, Captain Parr,



is in frequent cipher communication with them), in which case it would have been at Lhasa in seven days. Their conduct in the matter was, in fact, in accordance with the nature of their proceedings throughout, and shows that, equally with the Thibetans, the Chinese Government are under the impression that, if they procrastinate long enough, they can again induce us, as they did in 1888, to withdraw from the Sikkim border, and that we either have not the strength or the intention to adopt a more resolute policy.

5. These considerations were doubtless present in the mind of His Majesty's Government when the late Secretary of State dispatched to us on the 1st October a further expression of their views. We now learned that His Majesty's Government were prepared, "in the event of a complete rupture of the negotiations proving inevitable, to authorize the advance of the Mission to Gyantse, provided you are satisfied that this measure can be safely taken, as well as the occupation of the Chumbi Valley," and we were instructed to report our plans.

6. Upon receipt of this authority, his Excellency, the Viceroy, summoned Colonel Younghusband to Simla, where we discussed the entire matter with him at a meeting of Council which he was invited to attend. We then summed up our proposals in our telegram of the 26th October, which we have since supplemented by two telegrams dated the 27th October and the 3rd November. These three messages contain a statement of the case as it now stands, and they provide the information which we were desired to send.

7. In order, however, that His Majesty's Government may be able to study with minuteness the history of events that has led up to the present *impasse*, and that is the justification of our recent proposals, we have invited Colonel Younghusband to draw up a summary of the incidents of the past few months. We now inclose this Report for your information.

8. We further send a collection of papers, as detailed in the attached list, the latest of which is the text of the reply of the Amban at Lhasa, dated the 17th October, to the Viceroy's letter of the 25th August last. We summarized the contents of this reply in our telegram of the 27th October, and it will be seen that it confirms throughout the view that we had taken of the attitude both of the Thibetan and the Chinese Governments.

9. We now await the authorization of His Majesty's Government to proceed. We share the reluctance which they have hitherto entertained to embark upon strong measures. We have no quarrel with the Thibetan people, and we have no desire to invade or permanently to occupy their country. Even now, all that we solicit is sanction to transfer the scene of our negotiations to a locality in Thibet, more suitable for the purpose than Khamba Jong, and better calculated to impress the Thibetan Government with a sense of our earnestness and power. Some such action is indispensable. We do not think it possible that the Thibetan Government—which we dissociate entirely from the Thibetan people—should be allowed to ignore its Treaty obligations, to thwart trade, to encroach upon our territory, to destroy our border pillars, and to refuse even to receive our communications. Still less do we think that, when at last an amicable conference has been arranged for the settlement of these difficulties, we should acquiesce in our Mission being boycotted by the very persons who have been deputed to meet it, our officers insulted, our subjects arrested and ill-used, and our authority despised by a petty Power which only mistakes our forbearance for weakness, and which thinks that by an attitude of obdurate inertia, it can once again compel us, as it has done in the past, to desist from our intentions. We have already had to pay a heavy penalty for past mistakes in this respect. Were we now to repeat them, we should estrange the newly-won confidence of the Nepalese Durbar, who have sympathized with and loyally supported us on the present occasion, we should aggravate the ignorant pride of the Thibetan Government, we should probably convert the wavering attitude of the Bhutanese into one of active hostility, and we should only postpone to a later date, and to possibly more different conditions, the settlement which cannot much longer be delayed.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

CURZON.  
KITCHENER.  
T. RALEIGH.  
E. FG. LAW.  
E. R. ELLES.  
A. T. ARUNDEL.  
DENZIL IBBETSON.



No. 30.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received November 24.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 24th instant, relative to the object of the proposed advance of the Thibet Mission to Gyantse.

*India Office, November 24, 1903.*

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Inclosure in No. 30.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*November 24, 1903.*

YOUR telegram dated the 20th instant.

I would invite attention to the telegrams from the Foreign Office to Sir E. Satow, and to your telegram dated the 6th instant, regarding Thibet. The view that we are going to Gyantse simply in order to secure from the Thibetans legal reparation or satisfaction is not quite understood by me. The conclusion of a new Convention, as to which the Thibetans refused to enter into negotiations while we were at Khamba Jong, is, surely, the object of our advance.

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No. 31.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received November 25.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, dated the 5th November, relative to the Thibetan negotiations.

Copy has been sent to the India Office and War Office.

*India Office, November 23, 1903.*

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Inclosure 1 in No. 31.

*Deputy Commissioner Garrett to Government of Bengal*

(Confidential.)

*Darjeeling, October 21, 1903.*

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith my Confidential Report for the week ending on Saturday, the 17th October, 1903.

2. It was reported to me by Rai Bahadur Ugyen Gyatso that no wool had up to date come in to Kalimpong from Thibet, though in normal years 2,000 maunds have arrived by the middle of October. Subsequent inquiries lead me to believe that this information is not accurate. So far as I have been able to ascertain, in previous years not more than 300 or 400 maunds of wools have arrived at Kalimpong by the middle of October: this year only twenty-two maunds have arrived, but it is reported that there is a lot of wool at Gnatong. I have wired accordingly to Colonel Younghusband at Simla. So far I have received no reliable information of any marked interference with trade by Thibetans: the only restriction which I have heard of is that traders have been required to guarantee that they will not sell any mules or ponies within British territory.

3. I have nothing further to report this week.

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*Memorandum.*

(Confidential.)

Copy forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, for information.

(Signed) J. H. E. GARRETT,  
Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling.

Darjeeling, October 21, 1903.

Inclosure 2 in No. 31.

*Government of India to Resident in Nepal.*

(Telegraphic.)

Simla, October 28, 1903.

GOVERNMENT of India have no desire to precipitate rupture between Nepal and Thibet, or to imperial position or interests of Nepalese Darbar. We appreciate frank and courteous explanation of Nepalese Minister, and we do not think that at present stage we need ask Nepal for any further assistance than loan of yaks. We would propose, as soon as sanction of His Majesty's Government has been received, to provide for escort of these from Nepalese frontier at Tipta La in batches of 500 by British officer and guard to Khamba Jong. We need not at present ask Nepalese troops to garrison latter place, but will leave small Indian force there while advance is made. Nepal, while giving us full advantage of his co-operation, will in this way be protected from any injurious consequences. We shall not require more than 3,500 yaks, and will telegraph again as soon as arrangements for their advance have to be made.

Inclosure 3 in No. 31.

*Deputy Commissioner Garrett to Government of Bengal.*

(Confidential.)

Darjeeling, October 24, 1903.

I HAVE the honour to submit the following information which was received by me this morning from my Confidential Agent at Kalimpong.

2. On the 22nd instant, one Sona-Ge-Tshen, Bhutia mule driver of Renok, arrived at Kalimpong, and informed my Confidential Agent there that, though there was wool in three godowns at Gnatong, no traders are coming in from Thibet, and Choni Serpa, a carrying contractor, had informed him that the Thibetan Government was preventing all traders from coming into British territory, and the wool business had already been stopped.

3. One Tu-The-Pon, Chinaman, arrived at Kalimpong on the evening of the 21st instant from Pipithang. He informed my Confidential Agent that when he was at Pipithang he heard from some Thibetans that the Thibetan Government had prohibited all Thibetan traders from coming in to British territory, the order having been passed on the 25th of the eighth Thibetan month, corresponding to the 15th October, 1903. He also stated that at present there is a great scarcity of rice at Pipithang and other places in the Chumbi Valley, owing to the fact that many ponies and mules are dying of disease in Bhutan, and consequently, the usual import from that country is not taking place.

4. Under instructions from myself my Confidential Agent has been inquiring whether any orders been passed by the Thibetan Government prohibiting Thibetans from attending the forthcoming Kalimpong "mela," but he has been unable to get any definite information on the subject.

5. Tu-The-Pon, Chinaman, mentioned in paragraph 3 above, is expected in Darjeeling in a day or two. As soon as he comes, I will interview him and report the result in due course.



*Memorandum.*

(Confidential.)

Copy forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, for information.

(Signed) J. H. E. GARRETT,  
*Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling.*

*Darjeeling, October 24, 1903.*

**Inclosure 4 in No. 31.**

*Thibet Frontier Commission to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Khamba Jong, October 28, 1903.*

AMBAN replied :

"On the 10th September I had the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch which I read with care and attention. I have the honour to state in reply that the Prefect Ho was appointed to act in the discussion of the matters relating to the frontier, because he was versed in the questions, nor was his rank a low one. Your Excellency states that you consider his rank too low. The said Prefect has applied for leave of absence owing to ill-health. I have, therefore, appointed Colonel Chao, Major of Chingshi, to proceed to Khamba Jong with Mr. Parr as his joint assistant. Colonel Chao is of the third official rank with the official buttons of the second rank. I trust that this arrangement is in accordance with your Excellency's ideas on the subject. I have now the honour to request your Excellency to instruct Colonel Younghusband and any others concerned to act accordingly, and confer with Colonel Chao and Mr. Parr. Your Excellency states that you are apprehensive of delay of the arrival of the newly-appointed Amban Yu, and request me to proceed to the frontier. I am bound to cherish our international friendship strenuously. I have already requested the Dalai Lama to depute a Councillor of State to accompany me, but the Thibetans have not yet settled this point. When the appointment of the Councillor of State has been made I will bring him with me. His Excellency Yu, the newly-appointed Amban, has received the Imperial command to hasten on his journey, and should be here in two or three months' time. I have been inducing the Thibetans to fix a date for the Councillor's departure, but this is a matter which cannot be satisfactorily arranged at a moment's notice. In your Excellency's despatch reference is made to the selection of winter quarters by the two officials, Younghusband and White. I would request your Excellency to instruct those officers not to move their present camp, as every pass in Thibet is guarded by soldiers. It would be absolutely unheard of (?) that the British delegates should incur dangers, and thereby give rise to cause for troubling the friendly relations between Great Britain and China, a matter of the utmost moment. I have the honour to state, in conclusion, that my departure or the arrival of his Excellency Yu at his post will be communicated by despatch to your Excellency."

**Inclosure 5 in No. 31.**

*Lieutenant-Colonel Ravenshaw to Government of India.*

(Confidential.)

*The Residency, Nepal, October 27, 1903.*

WITH reference to correspondence ending with my letter dated the 15th October, 1903, I have the honour to send herewith, for the information of the Government of India, translations of two letters dated the 7th and 12th August, 1903, respectively, which have been received by the Prime Minister from the Nepalese Representative at Lhasa regarding Thibetan affairs.



## Inclosure 6 in No. 31.

*Letter from the Nepalese Representative at Lhasa.*

(Translation.)

WITH due respect I beg to lay before your Highness in the following lines the news that I have heard and been able to gather here for your Highness' information :—

*“ Information received from Ikjeur, a Clerk of the Chinese Yamén, and corroborated by another Clerk.*

“ On Monday, the 19th Sravan, a despatch was received at the Kasyal office from the Thibetan Commissioners at Ghambajhong stating that, notwithstanding all their efforts to persuade the British to hear their words, they appeared to be inclined to push on into Thibet and make a further advance very soon ; that the Chinese Fapoon, now with the Commission, has been dealing privately with the British, the nature of which they (the Thibetan Commissioners) knew not ; that the British have been giving out that they would produce a passport from His Majesty the Emperor of China granting them permission to enter Thibet ; and that if the British were to be checked in their advance, they (the Thibetan Commissioners) were quite powerless to do that.

Immediately on receipt of the above despatch the Kasyal office issued notices to the Khembus of the three Gumbas and also to other dignitaries down to the 7th grade temporal monks to attend the Chhongdui Council the very next day. Accordingly, on Tuesday, the 20th Sravan, the Council met, in which the Chikhyap Khembu also was summoned from Norpulinka to join. The matter was duly laid before the Assembly with this proposal that, since looking into the present and past conduct of the Chinese, they appeared to be united with the British, a deputation composed of all the members of the Assembly should wait upon the Amba to tell him that there were grounds to believe that the Fapoon Hotarin, who has been deputed by him to the Boundary Commission, has been siding with the British, and has been carrying on private negotiations with them ; that he (the Amba), too, has been influenced by the words of the Fapoon, and has done nothing what should have been done ; that, consequently, they (the Council) have resolved to fight to the last for the sake of their religious principles ; that as Thibet belonged jointly to His Majesty the Emperor of China and the Thibetan Government, the Chinese troops, who receive pay from His Majesty and fine rice and rations from the Thibetan Government to guard the country, have been maintained, so that they might be of use at a time like this when the enemy is encroaching upon the land ; that in an emergency like this the Amba should make the British return from Ghamba even by sending the Chinese troops stationed at Lhasa, Gyanchi, and Digarcha, if necessary, or by any other means ; that if the British be made to return to Gyaopangthang, the established boundary, and the British Commissioners, unaccompanied by any troops, be inclined to hold conference there, then only, and not till then, the Thibetan Commissioners, of whom one would be a Kazi, would go to meet them to discuss matters ; that if the British would forcibly stay on at Ghamba, they (the Thibetans) were not going to negotiate with them, nor would any negotiation be of any use ; that since the British have forcibly encroached upon their territory, they have no course open to them but to fight, for which Thibet would collect her forces as much as possible ; that he (the Amba) be now pleased to petition His Majesty the Emperor of China for obtaining the assistance of all the Chinese troops who were on this side of Tarchindo in accordance with the concession kindly granted to them by His Majesty ; and that if, owing to the power of the British being great, the requested assistance be not sufficient, they would look to some other sources for help.

“ This proposal was unanimously agreed to by the whole Assembly, and a deputation, composed of thirty or forty principal members, went to the Yamén. The Amba sent his interpreter to them to tell them that whatever they have to represent might be done through the Kazies of the Kasyal. The Kazies then went to the Amba and laid before him the resolution passed by the Assembly as stated above. The reply of the Amba was to the effect that it would never mend matters if the Fapoon Hotarin were always to side with them in all his talks, but he should also hear and understand



what the British had to say, so that he might have occasions to have been in communication with them; that the Fapoon, whose sole aim has been to settle the matter amicably by any means, must never have done any wrong to Thibet; that if the Assembly entertained such grave suspicions against the Chinese authorities as have been expressed both in words and writing, and that if the Assembly were bent on fighting, he (the Amba) could say nothing to them until he hears from His Majesty the Emperor of China in reply to the representation which he has already made to His Majesty; and that great as the power of the British was so much so as to badly corner even His Majesty the Emperor of China, war, which was not an easy thing to undertake, would on no account be beneficial to Thibet, all of which he (the Amba) has explained to them fully the other day, so that it now remained with them to decide as to whether they should be guided by that advice or not. To this the Kazies said that they have laid before him (the Amba) what they had to represent; that it was not a case of high-handedness on their part, but as it was the British who have forcibly entered their territory and have been staying there against their will, they could not look on silently to this, but were obliged to do what best they could; that since the Chinese troops in Thibet were intended for the protection of the country, they should be sent towards the frontier; and that all their representations be laid in detail before His Majesty the Emperor of China. The Amba said that they would receive no reply from him until he hears from the Emperor in reply to his representation, and then the Kazies and the deputation returned from the Yamên at about 9 P.M."

Chitung, a monk, says :—

"Had the Sathay Kazi, when he was formerly on the Boundary Commission, tried to arrive at a definite settlement with the British, it could have been done, as the influence of the Emperor of China was very great at that time, and the present troubles would have been avoided. Then he made only a makeshift arrangement solely applying his devices to obtain a promotion to Kaziship. Now, troubles have arisen, and all are in troubles. The British want Sathay Kazi to confer with them, he being the man who was on the former Boundary Commission, but he cannot go, as he has seriously erred before. Look at his sense of doing business; he wants to frighten the British by military preparations as if it was frightening a child by putting fingers in one's mouth and stretching it to its utmost limit. He has not sense enough to understand that a Power, which could put the great Emperor of China in an unpleasant position, would not be subdued by the military preparation of such a small country which has no good *bandobast*. On the other hand, it may provoke the British to bring about further complications. The idea before was that Sathay Kazi was a wise man, but subsequent events have proved that his ability is not equal to his position as a high statesman, but is only equal to have his belly full. By his mode of doing business it was surmised that secret help would come from Russia, but that has not come off. A Mongol named Lochawa, who, it is said, was sent to Russia, has not returned, and has altogether vanished. We have all along been submissive to China, so it was incumbent on the part of the Sathay Kazi either to be guided by the advice of the Amba, or he should have gone himself to meet the British Commissioners whose Government, it must be remembered, has spent lakhs of rupees in constructing the road with a view to come to Thibet, and with some presents of gold worth a few thousand rupees, propitiate them and come to a definite understanding to avoid troubles to the people. This he does not do; on the contrary, he is making military preparations such as might provoke the British, and entertains suspicion towards the Chinese. Under these circumstances, it is apprehended that his aim be frustrated, and that there may arise some serious complications. I heard my Khembus talk to the effect I have stated above."

One Abdulla says :—

"The British officers at Ghamba produced a passport before the Chinese Fapoons as one granted to them by the Emperor of China, and asked them whether or not they do come under the order given therein. According to the Chinese custom the Chinese kowtow when such an order is seen, and so they can in no way hinder the British from travelling into Thibet—this permission having been granted in the passport. Consequently, the Chinese are dumbfounded. The Thibetans, seeing that if they depend upon the Chinese they will not be able to check the British, are not at all inclined to follow the advice of the Amba. I have heard a few Thibetan officers talk in this way."



Ghesela, a monk of the Dhaibun Gumba, says :—

“With regard to the signatures that have been obtained from all the monks requiring them to go to fight with the British, the monks of the Gumbas say that they, whose duty is to worship and pray in the Gumbas, have no business to go to war, as they are not under the pay of the Government. It was for them to pray and worship for the welfare of the Potala Lama and the country, and this they would do as best they could.

“It would be time for them to be up and fighting when all these, who receive Government pay, have been cleared off, but not till then.”

A clerk (Malousay) says :—

“On Thursday, the 22nd Sravan, the Kazies again called at the Amba's. They requested him to send soon a representation to His Majesty the Emperor of China on the subject dealt with the other day since the British have encroached so much upon them, and that, after keeping the Chinese troops in readiness, it would be better if he (the Amba) be pleased to join the Boundary Commission. The Amba replied that it was to meet with exigencies like this that he was there, and so he was quite willing to go at once, but that in that case they should give him a paper signed by them, the Potala Lama, and the Chhongdui Council expressing their willingness to accept the settlement that he would make with the British, or otherwise he would wait for orders which he has asked from the Emperor and which, when received, he would act accordingly.

“The Kazies thereupon said that a bund should be erected before the water is in ; and precautions should be taken before it is too late, so they would go on with their military preparation and he (the Amba) too should keep the Chinese troops in readiness. The Amba replied that he could say nothing until he receives instructions from the Emperor, because what he had to say he has already said to them the other day, so it was now for them to decide which course to take. After this the Kazies returned.’

The same informant says :—

“When it came to the knowledge of the Fapoon Hotarin that he has been accused by the Thibetans of being partial to the British, he, in disgust, sent in his resignation to the Amba, with a request to kindly accept it and allow him to return to China, because he could not carry on business with men like these ; besides, he was in a dying condition on account of the disease, viz., the bleeding of nose, which he was suffering from.

The Amba, however, did not accept his resignation, stating that, as he has been in the work regarding the boundary dispute since the last year, he should carry it out to the end.”

Those of the sepoy's that have assembled here from distant villages and known as Duimak are having target practice, each being allowed to fire a round. Six hundred and odd of these sepoy's have assembled.

The Ramba Dhaibun with twenty-five sepoy's left Lhasa for Gyanchi on Tuesday, the 20th Sravan.

In my humble opinion, in the expression used by the Thibetans that “they would look to some other sources for help,” Russia was probably referred to.

I beg to inclose herein the news that I have received from Digarcha from Ditha Tirman Gurung and Bajra Gavaju.

Dated Friday, the 23rd Sravan, Sambat 1960, corresponding with the 7th August, 1903.

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#### Inclosure 7 in No. 31.

*News communicated to the Nepalese Representative by Ditha Tirman Gurung, under date Sravan Sudi 6, Sambat 1960 (July 30, 1903).*

(Translation.)

IT appears that the British officers had sent six Sikkimese spies to this side. Of them three had been arrested in the bazaar here at Digarcha and have been put into chains by the local Jhong. Of the remaining three, one is said to have been



caught and imprisoned at Tenga Jhong, while two are said to have made their way towards Sakya.

The sepoy sent from here towards Domo have been ordered not to proceed to that place, and have been stopped at a place called Sakalundo. Those sepoy that were left behind here have been utilized in piqueting hill-tops and important posts lying all along from here to Ghamba. It is said that these piquets prevent people from travelling through this road.

I hear that there are six British officers at Ghamba, and that between them and the Thibetan Dhaibun and the Chinese Fapoon there have been five meetings. It is said that the British officers are demanding either the cessation of Ghamba, Ray, and Tengay Jhongs, or permission to establish shops at Digarcha, Gyanchi, and Lhasa.

On the Thibetan officers refusing to comply with either of these demands the British officers angrily said that in case of either of these two demands not being complied with, the Thibetans might, if they could, go and plant their flags in Calcutta, while the British, too, would try and capture and plant their own flags at the Thibetan salt and gold mines, determined as they were not to return as they have come, but either to establish shops or take a portion of the country, even at the sacrifice of their lives.

The Dhaibun of this place has ordered off his sepoy to go to Ghamba ready equipped with arms and ammunition at the rate of 500 rounds each.

The Jhong here speaks of orders having been received here yesterday, and the day before yesterday, from the Thibetan Government, to keep provisions ready and to be prepared for mobilization. It appears that the Thibetans are inwardly bent upon crossing arms with the British.

It is said that orders have been sent to various parts of the country in Thibet to send in sepoy three times more in number than was done on former occasions.

The British had sent two spies to Lhasa, who succeeded in visiting the city and gathering all informations, and after purchasing some articles of the place, returned to Ghamba and have each been rewarded with 500 rupees (British Indian coins) by the British officers.

The wall, which has been constructed with stone and turf round about the camp of the British troops, has been raised breast high. The British officers daily go about to the fields for rabbit-hunting, accompanied by ten or twelve sepoy, while the Chinese and Thibetan officers are sitting idly.

Daily some fifty or sixty loaded yaks come from, and return to, the Sikkim side, carrying provisions to Ghamba.

I shall communicate to you from time to time the news that I may be able to obtain here.

#### Inclosure 8 in No. 31.

*News received from the Nepalese Representative from Bajra Guvaju, under date Sravan Sudi 8 (August 1, 1903).*

(Translation.)

THE British spies were beaten fifty stripes each and have been put into chains. A man, whom I had sent with my goods to Kapa Jhong, says that the British want to establish a shop at Digarcha and keep two officers with 200 sepoy there; also one shop at Gyanchi and one at Lhasa. If this be not allowed, they threaten to advance to Digarcha.

Five hundred sepoy of this place have been ordered off to Ghamba Jhong.

#### Inclosure 9 in No. 31.

*Letter from the Nepal Representative at Lhasa.*

(Translation.)

WITH due respect I beg to lay before your Highness in the following lines the news that I have heard and been able to gather here for your Highness' information:—

According to a clerk of the Nechang, there are at present 600 Thibetan sepoy here from among the number who, as a rule, assemble once a-year at this capital to undergo



a course of drill. At an appointed auspicious hour on the 20th Sravan, rifles of the Martini-Henry pattern, locally manufactured, were being served out to them, when a rabbit suddenly made its appearance in their lines, and turning about round and round made good its escape. This is considered a bad omen by the people, who apprehend that the British, when informed of the threatening policy that is being followed by the Thibetan Government, will find in it an excuse they were in search of, and possibly some serious complication may arise in Thibet.

The Khani of the Kasyal says that order has been issued for sending on to Lhasa the three British Sikkimese spies, caught and imprisoned by the Jhong of Digarcha, and that Meponthongme, the officer in charge of the Thana, and Bagsya Kasay Kuseo have been appointed for the work of raising the sepoy (conscripts) of Seotalosun and Kham, respectively, but the date of their departure from Lhasa for the places named is not yet settled.

Ghomang Gharpon says that suspicion was at first entertained of some Russian people being in the retinue of the Sopa Lady known as Thorkay Pomo now at Lhasa; but inquiry showed that all the men who accompanied her were Mongols, and that the part of the country which is her home, though belonging to China, is at present virtually under Russian control. The Sopas from whom I bought horses were talking of their having heard on their way to Lhasa of some Russian people coming to Thibet from the Kharka side.

Further information brought by the said clerk of the Nechang is as follows:—

“The Chdongdui Council, in which all the Government officials and the ecclesiasts down to the 7th grade temporal monks were present, again met at Norpulinka on Wednesday, the 28th Sravan, when the Kasyal Office laid the following questions before them:—

1. That in view of the statement made by the Amba regarding the dispute with the British, expressing his inability to give a definite reply either in favour of war or against it until he receives instructions from Peking in reply to the representation he has made, and in the meanwhile laying the whole responsibility upon the Government of Thibet in case of any evil consequence arising from their work, and in view of the reports received from the Thibetan Commissioners regarding the construction of fortifications by the British at Ghamba and the collection of military stores there, what would be the best course to adopt for Thibet?

2. In accordance with the Resolution passed by the Council some sepoy have already assembled at Lhasa, and Duimaks (conscripts) from different parts of the country are assembling at the different Jhongs. Now, considering the fact of what the British have done, after having proceeded up to Ghamba, would it be advisable to mobilize the troops at once or wait to consider the nature of the reply the Amba will receive to his representation?

To these questions the Council unanimously gave a reply to the effect that, as they have said before, they, one and all, are ready to lay down their lives for the sake of their Government, and that for the sake of their religious principles which will be violated by allowing the British to enter Thibet, they are at all times ready to do whatever they are required to do; that now if the British who are at Ghamba Jhong stop there to carry on negotiation, it would be better to wait for the reply the Amba expects from His Majesty the Emperor of China; but if the British make a further advance, let everything needful be done and the troops be mobilized, in which case the Council take upon themselves the responsibility of any consequence that may arise therefrom. The Council then rose. The Dalai Lama and the Kasyal officer have, however, not yet issued orders either one way or the other.

The interpreter attached to the Teep Arsenal says that, in accordance with an order issued by the Kasyal Office, 600 rifles of local manufacture and 100 boxes of ammunition, each containing 300 rounds of cartridges, were taken out of Syol and delivered to the Lheting Dhaibun, who is now preparing his travelling suits. Another order was received from the said office to finish (working the factory night and day) the ten “Janjals” of a new pattern that are fired with percussion caps, and these have also been made over to the said Dhaibun. These new “Janjals” have a range of a kos (2 miles) or a kos and a-half, and shoot straight.

The Mongrel, whom I had again sent towards Nakchewkha, has not yet returned. When he comes I shall report to your Highness the news he brings.

Dated Friday, the 30th Sravan, Sambat 1960, corresponding with the 12th August, 1903.



No. 32.

*The Marquess of Lansdowne to Chang Ta-jén.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, November 28, 1903.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 23rd instant, in which you inform me that, while the new Amban has arrived at Ta-Chien-Loo, and is proceeding to his post at Lhasa, the present Amban, accompanied by Thibetan officials of rank and influence, has been instructed to proceed to Western Thibet, and there reopen negotiations with the British Commissioners.

You also state that the Wai-wu Pu have expressed the hope that, recognizing the difficult position in which China has been placed, His Majesty's Government will enjoin on the British Commissioners the exercise of patience and forbearance, and thus assist the Amban in his task.

His Majesty's Government trust that the Amban may be successful in bringing the Thibetans to a juster sense of their duties and responsibilities as good neighbours.

I would, however, point out that the Chinese authorities have hitherto signally failed in such attempts, and that the attitude of the Thibetan authorities has of late been one of increased hostility. Meanwhile, it is impossible that His Majesty's Government should desist from the measures already sanctioned.

I am, &amp;c.

: (Signed) LANSDOWNE

No. 33.

*Mr. Spring-Rice to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received November 30.)*

(No. 398. Confidential.)

My Lord,

*St. Petersburg, November 25, 1903.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 387 of the 12th instant, relative to Thibet, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the news of a contemplated British advance has elicited somewhat violent comments in the Russian press.

It is not stated in what specific respect the interests of Russia would be endangered by such an expedition, although one newspaper affirms that the Indian Government intends to construct a railway through Thibet to the Yang-tsze, and thus deprive the Siberian Railway of its present monopoly. The "Novoye Vremya" states that a British occupation of Gyantse will give England a commanding position in the Buddhist world; that Thibet is itself incapable of serious resistance, but that it would not be difficult to induce England to pause in her aggressive policy by threatening her in certain more sensitive parts of her Empire.

From these remarks it may be inferred that England, in obtaining influence in the Buddhist world, would occupy the position that Russia herself aspires to.

The Japanese Minister observed to me in the course of conversation that the action of England towards Thibet would be regarded with great interest by his Government, in view of the statement in the preamble of the Treaty of 1902, that both England and Japan are "specially interested in maintaining the independence and territorial integrity of the Empire of China."

I explained to him the circumstances under which England had been forced to resort to measures of defence, in consequence of the aggressive action of the Thibetans, which was in direct violation of the British understanding with China. The Chinese Minister, who also spoke to me on the subject, appeared to be in ignorance of the history of the case, and especially anxious to know to what extent his Government had been consulted.

After informing him of the nature of the negotiations with China, I asked him whether he had seen the statements which have from time to time appeared in the press as to a Treaty between Russia and China, by which the latter is supposed to have surrendered to the former a share in the administration of the tributary States, in exchange for a guarantee of the integrity of China proper. He said he had seen the statements in question. It was true that Russia had twice approached China with a view to the recognition of special rights in Mongolia—once at Peking and once at St. Petersburg, but on both occasions China had refused to agree to the proposals of Russia.



He did not believe, he said, that the Russians or any other foreign nation could "get hold" of Thibet. He had heard that the priest who had brought the presents to the Tsar in 1900, had not been allowed to return to Lhasa.

The Thibetans were a very shy people and did not like foreign merchants or soldiers, though they were very glad to see Buddhist pilgrims from abroad, who brought them gifts. That was how China had kept up her influence, and how Russia was acquiring influence now, by sending presents to the Grand Lama, and allowing the collection of the offerings of the faithful, and especially by promising help to keep away other foreigners.

I understand from Sir Donald Wallace, that the subject is frequently alluded to at present in Russian circles. Official friends have assured him that the relations of Russia with Thibet merely consist in the fact that the Russian authorities in Siberia have been obliged to regulate questions concerning Buddhist church property and the collection of the local contributions to the religious capital.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. SPRING-RICE.

No. 34.

*Mr. Spring-Rice to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received November 30.)*

(No. 399.)

My Lord,

*St. Petersburg, November 25, 1903.*

IN addition to the statements made in the abstract of M. Tsibikov's lecture on Thibet, which was inclosed in Sir Charles Scott's despatch No. 147 of the 23rd May, I have the honour to call attention to the following extracts which are drawn from the report of the lecture published by the Russian Geographical Society.

1. After describing the Chinese garrison which is scattered about the country, a small detachment being stationed at a distance of about 2 miles from Lhasa, the lecturer states that the Chinese are placed administratively under the immediate control of the Amban, whose residence is in the south-west corner of the town.

There is a considerable colony of Nepalese and Kashmiri, who are under the jurisdiction of their own officials, whose position resembles that of Consuls or *Chargés d'Affaires*. The Nepalese are forbidden under pain of death to contract alliances with the Thibetan women.

The Mongols (about 7,000 in number) are temporary visitors. They live in the monasteries, and about 15 per cent. of their number are changed every year. In 1900 there were forty-seven Russian Buriats from the Transbaikai, and one Kalmuck from Astrakan. They are all subject to the general monasterial rule.

It will be observed that the existence of this colony of Russian subjects might well give a pretext for demanding the recognition of a Russian Consul.

2. After describing the Council charged with the spiritual education of the Grand Llama, the lecturer adds: "For practical discussions there is appointed one learned Llama from each of the divinity faculties of the three chief monasteries; among them is at present our compatriot the Buriat Agban Dorochev."

3. Describing the travelling traders from Mongolia, he states that "their business is to collect offerings for various undertakings of monasteries or 'incarnations.' If we add to this the vast resources collected by Llamas, who with or without invitation travel in Mongolia, it may be affirmed with certainty that Mongolia constitutes to a considerable extent the support of Thibet."

This is an interesting proof of the close relations between Thibet and Mongolia, which shows how any Power obtaining control in Mongolia must exercise great influence on Thibet.

4. The writer summarizes as follows the relations between Russia and Thibet:—

"Relations between Thibet and Russia did not exist till quite recently, although Russian Buriat subjects have long since been in the habit of making journeys to Thibet, which they kept secret for fear of oppression on the part of the Russian authorities; arriving in Thibet, they assumed the character of Khalkha pilgrims for fear of not being admitted as foreigners. But some fifteen years ago a quarrel arose between the Buriats and the Khalkhas, who called the former publicly 'Oros' or Russians. The case went before the highest Court, who decided that the Khalkhas were in the wrong, and that any one calling the Buriats 'Oros' should pay a fine of 12 roubles.



"Russia can hardly reckon on Thibet as a profitable market for her goods, but relations to Thibet are of importance to her because Thibet is the centre of Llamanism to which the thoughts of all Mongolians are directed, of whom about half-a-million (Buriats and Kalmucks) are Russian subjects."

I have, &c.  
(Signed) CECIL SPRING-RICE.

No. 35.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received November 30.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary, Calcutta, dated the 12th November, relative to the Thibetan negotiations.

Copies have been sent to the Intelligence Division, War Office.

*India Office, November 30, 1903.*

Inclosure 1 in No. 35.

*Colonel Younghusband to Government of India.*

Sir,

*Simla, October 26, 1903.*

IN accordance with the verbal instructions received, I have the honour to submit for the information and consideration of the Government of India, a note on the present unsatisfactory situation in Thibet, with proposals for remedying it and my reason for making these proposals.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) F. E. YOUNGHUSBAND.

Inclosure 2 in No. 35.

*Note on the present unsatisfactory situation in Thibet, with Proposals for the Measures necessary to remedy it.*

ELATED by our withdrawal of the proposed Mission of Mr. Colman Macaulay to Lhasa in 1886, and interpreting the withdrawal as a sign of weakness, the Thibetans invaded Sikkim territory; and as, after patiently waiting for nearly two years, we found the Chinese could not induce them to withdraw, nothing was left for us but to drive them out ourselves. But out of consideration for the Chinese, and believing that they possessed some authority and influence over the Thibetans, we refrained from occupying the Chumbi Valley, whither we had pursued them, and we concluded a settlement with the Chinese Government without demanding any indemnity for the expense and trouble which the unprovoked aggression of the Thibetans had caused us. The revision of the Treaty then concluded is the object of the present Mission. It defines the boundary between Thibet and our Sikkim feudatory, and it provides for the establishment of a trade mart at Yatung, at the extremity of Thibetan territory, and for the regulation of trade with Thibet.

2. From the first the Thibetans repudiated this Treaty, which they said the Chinese had no right to make on their behalf, and of which they declared that they had no knowledge though the present Chief Councillor of the Dalai Lama was present with the Amban when he was negotiating; they threw down the boundary pillars which were subsequently erected to define the boundary; they occupied land inside the boundary defined; and they evaded and broke the trade regulations; while their Chinese suzerains have openly acknowledged that they were unable to keep the Thibetans to the Treaty engagements made on their behalf.

3. Last year a small Mission, under Mr. White, was sent to turn the Thibetans

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out of the land which they were occupying on our side of the boundary as defined by the Treaty. But as the Mission naturally withdrew again, the Thibetans considered they had caused its withdrawal, and rewarded the official who had met Mr. White for his successful diplomacy.

4. Such in brief was the situation when the present Mission visited Thibet this year; and we soon became aware of the futility of our previous efforts, and the ineffectiveness of the policy of patience we had hitherto adopted. Though the Thibetans had been removed on the previous year from Giagong by Mr. White, it was there that he was met again this year when he proceeded to Khamba Jong in advance of me. The Thibetans protested against the Mission advancing beyond this point, though it is 10 miles inside the boundary laid down by the Treaty; and it was only by the threat of force that he was able to push his way past. On arrival at Khamba Jong only a few supplies were furnished to the Mission, even on payment, and obstacles were placed in the way of the inhabitants dealing with us, though they were most willing to sell their produce for the high prices we were ready to give.

5. On my arrival there I made a speech to the Lhasa Delegates, shortly recapitulating the history of our relations with Thibet; recounting the particulars in which the Thibetans had broken the Treaty; and stating that the present Mission had been sent to Thibet itself, and to treat with Thibetan as well as Chinese Delegates, in order that any new Treaty might not be repudiated like the last had been, on the ground that they knew nothing whatever about it.

6. I gave them the assurance that the Government of India had no intention of permanently annexing their country, though we would naturally demand assurance on their part that they would faithfully observe any new settlement which was arrived at, and would insist that the obstacles which they had for so many years put in the way of trade between India and Thibet should be once and for ever removed. And lastly in order to encourage the Thibetans to commence negotiations; and in order to show them that we had no intention of being unreasonable, I even went so far as to say that Government were prepared to make concessions to them in regard to the lands near Giagong, on the British side of the Treaty frontier, if, in the coming negotiations, they showed themselves reasonable in regard to trade, and ready to put it on a proper footing.

7. I informed the Lhasa Delegates that I had not yet received instructions from the Viceroy to recognize and treat with them, but I would ask them to explain to their Government fully and carefully the words I had spoken, in order that they might be fully considered before the formal negotiations commenced, and the Lhasa Government then be prepared with proposals for the best way in which to "establish those friendly relations and means of communication which ought to subsist between two neighbouring and friendly countries." The speech having been read out in Thibetan from a manuscript translation, Mr. Ho, the Chinese Delegate, suggested that I should hand it over to the Lhasa Delegates, but the latter absolutely refused to take it or make any report of it to their Government. They pushed the paper from them and said that they could not even report that the Mission was at Khamba Jong and they could have no discussion of any kind with the Mission while it was on the Thibetan side of the frontier.

8. From that day, the 23rd July, to this no member of the Mission has had any communication, official or social, with the Lhasa Delegates, who have shut themselves up in the fort and refused all intercourse with us. They even refused Mr. Ho's request to accompany him on an official visit to the Mission. This conduct is all the more remarkable because the Thibetan Delegates were in their personal behaviour polite and even genial on the only two occasions on which I met them; and still more extraordinary because the Dalai Lama, according to Prince Ching's letter, dated the 19th July, to the British Minister at Peking, had appointed these two very officials "to proceed with the Prefect Ho to Khamba to meet Major Younghusband and Mr. White to discuss the question amicably." But neither the Dalai Lama nor the Chinese Amban is the supreme authority in Thibet in external matters. The real power is in the hands of a national Assembly chiefly composed of Lhasa monks, and it was they who issued orders to the Delegates absolutely forbidding them to hold intercourse with us.

9. The Lhasa authorities, in another way, too, early showed their unfriendly spirit by seizing and beating two Lachung men, British subjects, who had proceeded to Shigatse to trade. In spite of the demands, firstly, of Mr. White, in his capacity of Political Officer in Sikkim, and then of myself, to Mr. Ho, and, lastly, under the



instructions of the Government of India, of myself to the Amban himself, these men have never been surrendered; rumours are current that they have been killed; and missionaries resident in the Lachung Valley in Sikkim have made a representation to the Political Officer on behalf of the inhabitants stating that the whole valley is in a state of terror on account of this outrage.

10. Meanwhile, nothing has been done to comply with His Excellency the Viceroy's request that Delegates of proper standing and authority should be deputed to confer with the British Commissioners. The Delegates at present at Khamba Jong have no authority. They say they are in constant fear of having their throats cut for having permitted us to enter Thibet at all. They are absolutely forbidden to receive any written communication from us, and, as already stated, they refuse even to report a speech. And while negotiations with men of such a description is impossible, the Lhasa authorities show no sign of deputing any man with more adequate authority. On the contrary, instead of making any effort to negotiate with us, they are showing marked activity in military preparations. The heights between Khamba Jong and Shigatse, and between Khamba Jong and Gyantse, are lined with troops, while sangars have been constructed across the passes. Supplies are being collected, arms served out, and every preparation made for hostilities. Lastly, they have issued orders for the closing of trade with British territory.

11. The Chinese, though not so impossibly obstructive as the Thibetans, are inept, indifferent and inclined to be insolent. Their first deputy, Mr. Ho, whom the Amban had the hardihood to assert was of equivalent rank to myself, performs duties at Lhasa somewhat similar to, though much less onerous than those performed by the First Assistant to the Resident at Hyderabad; and his rank is that of a third rank Prefect, which, according to Mr. Wilton, is considerably below the rank of a Resident, which I myself hold. His authority over his Thibetan colleagues was proved to be almost non-existent, for he was unable, though he tried, to induce them to receive a copy of my speech; to have any communication with us; to provide the Mission with supplies on payment; or even to accompany him on his farewell official visit to the Mission.

12. On his retirement from Khamba Jong not a higher but a lower official was sent in his place—a man with not more but less influence, and of not greater but of less ability—a Colonel Chao, whose former appointment was that of Commandant at Phari. Probably no one who is acquainted with Chinese official customs and etiquette would deny that such an appointment was intended as a direct insult to the British Government. On his first arrival I treated the arrangement as probably temporary, and received him in an entirely unofficial manner, and did not wear uniform. From a telegram which has recently been received from Peking it appears, however, that he has been definitely appointed by the Amban, and presumably accepted by the Peking Government as the Chinese Delegate, in spite of the protest of the Viceroy that Mr. Ho himself was not of sufficient standing to meet me.

13. The indifference of a central Government is also shown by their recent appointments in Thibet. A new Amban was appointed in Lhasa last December with the object, as the Chinese Government asserted, of proceeding without delay to the Indian frontier to discuss matters with Mr. White. He did not, however, reach Szechuen till June; he was still at Chengtu on the 1st October; he was to have left on the 11th October, but we have not heard that he has; and the latest reports from the present Amban say that he cannot reach Lhasa till the end of December. Mr. Wilton was in Szechuen while the new Amban was there; yet it is two and a half months since Mr. Wilton arrived at Khamba Jong; so, if the Chinese Government had been really in earnest, they might easily have ensured that the new Amban could have met me long before this. The Assistant (Associate) Amban was allowed to resign some months ago; and it is reported that the new Assistant Amban has already applied for and obtained sick leave before ever joining his post. The present Amban will do nothing because a new Amban is coming; the new Amban will not hasten because he wishes the present Amban to have the brunt of dealing with us; and the Central Government show no special energy in urging either of them to action, perhaps hoping that winter will cause us to retire from Khamba Jong. The Chinese Amban in making the existing Treaty accepted responsibility for it on behalf of the Thibetans; but even, supposing they wished, the Chinese have, it is evident from our experience in Thibet, no power or influence over the Thibetans to make them carry it out or now negotiate with us in a reasonable manner.

14. Such is the present position. The Thibetans absolutely repudiate the Treaty made with their cognizance and on their behalf by their Chinese suzerains at the conclusion of a campaign necessitated by their unprovoked aggression on a British



Feudatory State. And though they have not only repudiated but broken it, they refuse to negotiate with the British Representatives deputed to revise it or conclude a new one. They even refuse to receive communications from the British Representatives; and they seize, beat and, as it is reported, kill two British subjects. Finally, they make preparations for war, and order the closing of the trade route to British territory. All this is done while the Chinese look on unable and unwilling to coerce the Thibetans to conform to the usages of civilized nations.

15. This being the case, the only alternative is for us to coerce them ourselves. When negotiating with the Chinese Amban at the conclusion of the Sikkim Campaign, Sir Mortimer Durand said the obvious course was to inform the Chinese and Thibetans that our patience was exhausted, and we should cross the frontier and compel the Government of Lhasa to listen to reason. The occupation of Phari he regarded as the most satisfactory conclusion of the affair, and considered that only by such a material guarantee would any lasting agreement be made with the Thibetans. In this opinion he was evidently perfectly right. Our forbearance in not occupying the Chumbi Valley has led to no good result. Our prestige has never been properly established on this frontier. In August last I had to warn Government that "much that we ought by this time to have been able to do by the weight of our prestige will probably now have to be done by the force of our arms." And we have now to go back to the position we were in at the close of the Sikkim Campaign; to look upon the subsequent settlement as so much waste paper; to recognize that the Chinese had no power to make a settlement on behalf of the Thibetans; to make now a new settlement with the Thibetans as well as the Chinese; and by force of arms exact a material guarantee that they will keep to it when made.

16. I would recommend then that the Chumbi Valley be occupied, and that the Mission be moved forward to Gyantse to negotiate a settlement there.

17. A move of the Mission to Lhasa itself—to the very seat of the bigoted monks who are the prime causers of all this trouble—would probably be more effective and may even yet prove to be necessary, for it is essentially with the Lhasa authorities whom we wish to deal, and them especially whom we wish to impress. But I hesitate at the present stage to recommend a move so far into the interior of Thibet, because we may possibly find that a move to Gyantse may be sufficient to make the ignorant monks of Lhasa who control the destinies of Thibet understand that they cannot break old Treaties, refuse to negotiate new ones, and maltreat British subjects with impunity.

18. A move to Gyantse is, however, the minimum of action I would recommend the Government of India to take, for our prestige is so small and the Thibetans are so confident in the magic spells which their Lamas can exercise, and rely so fully in the support that they can receive from China, from Mongolia, and from Russia, that it will be no easy matter to sufficiently impress them. The Chumbi Valley is really outside Thibet proper, and is on the Indian side of the watershed, so that if we merely occupied that and remained at Khamba Jong we should still be on the mere outskirts of Thibet; and though the Thibetans might then come and talk with us, this would probably only be with the intention of gaining time till they could summon Chinese, Mongol and, as they hope, Russian allies to their assistance.

19. Still less could we expect any good result if we were to move the Mission to Phari on the occupation of the Chumbi Valley. This would be a move from the inside to the outside of Thibet Proper, and is so far a retrograde movement. It would probably on that account be regarded as a diplomatic victory for the Thibetans in much the same light as they regard the retirement of Mr. White's Mission at the conclusion of their work last year.

20. In order to produce any real impression upon the Lhasa authorities a move at least to Gyantse is then a necessity. But the main reason why I would recommend the Government of India to move the Mission to Gyantse is because I think it most essential and most important that we should get into real personal contact with the people of Thibet Proper. Accessibility to them is what we chiefly want, and to gain this accessibility should be the main object of our policy. Two things have impressed me during my stay in Thibet. One is the unyielding and intensely obstinate character of the Lhasa monks who rule Thibet. And the other is the extremely friendly disposition of the people, even of the monks and officials, once we are brought into direct personal contact with them. I think it therefore most desirable that the headquarters of the Mission should be established in a place where access to various classes of Thibetans can be obtained. Gyantse exactly answers this condition. It is situated on the high road between Shigatse and Lhasa, it is a trading mart of considerable



importance and it possesses a monastery. Officials, monks, merchants and travellers must be constantly passing through. So here, if anywhere, access to the people could be obtained, and if refused insisted on.

21. Once access is acquired, I can confidently predict a radical change in the attitude of the people towards us. Two British Missions visited Thibet in the time of Warren Hastings, and in each case the British officers were able to produce an exceedingly good effect upon the people with whom they were actually brought in contact. During the present Mission we have had little chance of producing any impression upon the Lhasa Delegates, for under orders from Lhasa they were compelled to shut themselves up in the fort and refuse all communication with us. But the Chief Abbot of the Shigatse Monastery and his lay colleague who were sent to ask us to withdraw have, under Captain O'Connor's sympathetic treatment, become so friendly that the Chinese and the Lhasa Delegates suspect that we have bought them over. We must, in the first instance, impress the Thibetans with our power. But once we have done that I am convinced that if we gain accessibility to them we should soon be able to establish cordial relations with the people. It is for this reason that I would strongly recommend a move to Gyantse in preference to a move to Phari.

22. One further reason is that, as we shall want to establish a mart there and I trust also a British officer to superintend it, the easiest way to gain this point is to establish the Mission there in the first instance.

23. This is the policy which I have now the honour to recommend for adoption by the Government of India, and I have the less hesitation in recommending it because I have seen sufficient evidence to convince me that a serious political danger had slowly been growing up along this frontier of India. While our prestige had year by year been declining through our treating the Thibetans with a consideration we would never have treated them with but for their connection with the Chinese and the reasonable presumption that the Chinese would be able to bear responsibility on their behalf, the influence of the Russians had been rapidly increasing, and Russian subjects were able to induce the Dalai Lama to send an Embassy to the Czar, and write him and high Russian officials autograph letters. This Embassy, Count Lamsdorff assured our Ambassador, was of a purely religious and complimentary nature. But the actual practical result of this and of the constant passing to and fro of Kalmak and Siberian Lamas between Russia and Lhasa has been imbuing the minds of these childlike Thibetans with the idea that they could rely upon support from Russia in the case of trouble with us. Even a Chinese Amban once informed a British Political Officer that this was the case; and some high Thibetan officials told him that the Russians had actually offered the Thibetans assistance. I do not believe that the Thibetans wish to admit European Russians to Lhasa in ordinary times any more than they wish to admit us. But what they certainly do wish and expect to receive is assistance from the Russians in time of trouble; and connected as the Lhasa Lamas are with co-religionists in Russian territory, Russian influence would certainly grow in Thibet, and might conceivably become, under certain circumstances, a cause of trouble to us. With Russian influence growing as it has done; with the Dalai Lama sending autograph letters to the Czar and his officials while he refuses to receive letters from the Viceroy and his Representatives, we cannot afford to allow our own influence to decline, and are compelled by the natural necessities of the situation to take measures to insure, indeed, that it not only equals, but predominates over that of the Russians.

24. And I recommend a policy which will, even though with force, bring us accessibility to the Thibetans, because my recent ride from Thibet to Darjeeling impressed me most forcibly with an idea of the good results which are certain to follow from the opening of Thibet to trade with India. In Thibet the people were badly clothed and in a generally impoverished condition. The nearer I approached British territory the more the condition of the people improved; till on the fifth day, when I reached the Darjeeling district, I found hill-sides, which fifty years ago were covered with forests, now covered with tea gardens; the people well clothed and a sensible air of prosperity apparent everywhere. On the Thibetan side were thousands of sheep with most of their wool running to waste. On the Indian side were merchants only too anxious to buy up any wool they could obtain, and a population ready enough to buy the live animals for meat. On the Thibetan side was a people of tea drinkers, who were forced to buy tea from China hundreds of miles away. On the Indian side were vast stretches of tea gardens. On the Thibetan side were a population needing cotton goods and iron and cotton utensils. On the Indian side were bazaars full of all these articles. Yet the bigoted Monks at Lhasa prevent by all



means in their power the Thibetans and ourselves effecting that interchange of commerce which would make the Thibetans as prosperous as those people round Darjeeling have now become. So when such a course is of benefit not merely to ourselves, but also to the Thibetans, I have no hesitation in recommending that the power of the monks should be so far broken as to prevent them any longer selfishly obstructing the prosperity both of Tibet and of the neighbouring British districts. And when these self-seeking monks argue that in striving to exclude us they are defending the principles of their religion I would reply, in the words of the present Nepalese Minister to the Lhasa Council, that the British Government do not seek to destroy but, on the contrary, to protect and respect the religious principles of the peoples with whom they have to deal; and I would recommend, as I now do, that the safest and the surest way of removing the scruples and prejudices of these childish Lamas is by, at all costs, gaining access to them and giving them the opportunity of conversing freely and unrestrainedly with British officers. For over a century we have tried by peaceful means to gain this access, and I honestly believe that, even if we now have to use force to secure it, posterity will see that the Thibetans have lost nothing and gained much by our insistence.

(Signed) F. E. YOUNGHUSBAND.

*Simla, October 26, 1903.*

Inclosure 3 in No. 35.

*Government of India to Government of Bengal.*

(Telegraphic.)

*November 2, 1903.*

FIVE hundred yaks are being sent by Nepalese Government to Phallut. Please arrange, in communication with Colonel Macdonald to have them taken over.

Addressed to the Government of Bengal; repeated to the Resident in Nepal.

Inclosure 4 in No. 35.

*Government of India to Mr. Wilton.*

(Telegraphic.)

*November 2, 1903.*

YOUR telegram dated the 31st.

Nepalese yaks will be taken over by Darjeeling, and not at Tipta La.

Inclosure 5 in No. 35.

*Government of India to Government of Bengal.*

(Confidential.)

*Simla, November 2, 1903.*

IN paragraph 3 of the letter from the Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling, dated the 24th October, 1903, it is stated that "many ponies and mules are dying of disease in Bhutan." I am directed to request that, with the permission of his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, an inquiry may be made as to the nature of the disease, and the result of the inquiry communicated to the Government of India.

Inclosure 6 in No. 35.

*Colonel Younghusband to Government of India.*

(Confidential.)

*Khamba Jong, October 24, 1903.*

WITH reference to Mr. Wilton's telegram dated the 23rd October, 1903, I have the honour to submit Amban's reply to his Excellency the Viceroy's letter, dated the 25th August, 1903, to him, together with an English translation of the same.



Inclosure 7 in No. 35.

*The Chinese Amban to Government of India.*

(Translation.)

Lhassa, October 17, 1903.

ON the 10th September I had the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch, which I have read with care and attention.

I have the honour to state in reply that the Prefect Ho was appointed to act in the discussion of matters relating to the frontier, because he was versed in this question, nor was his rank a low one. Your Excellency states that you consider his rank too low. The said Prefect has applied for leave of absence owing to illness. I have, therefore, appointed Colonel Chao, Major of Chingshi (a district near Yatung), to proceed to Khamba Jong with Mr. Parr as his joint Assistant. Colonel Chao is of the third official rank with the official button of the second rank. I trust that this arrangement is in accordance with your Excellency's ideas on the subject.

I have now the honour to request your Excellency to instruct Colonel Young-husband and any others concerned to act accordingly, and confer with Colonel Chao and Mr. Parr.

Your Excellency states that you are apprehensive of delay in the arrival of the newly-appointed Amban Yu, and requests me to proceed to the frontier. I am bound to cherish our international friendship strenuously. I have already requested the Dalai Lama to depute a Councillor of State (Kalon) to accompany me, but the Thibetans have not yet settled this point. When the appointment of the Councillor of State has been made I will bring him with me.

His Excellency Yu, the newly-appointed Amban, has received the Imperial command to hasten on his journey, and should be here in two or three months' time.

I have been inducing the Thibetans to fix a date for the Councillor's departure, but this is a matter which cannot be satisfactorily arranged at a moment's notice.

In your Excellency's despatch reference is made to the selection of winter quarters by the two officials, Messrs. Younghusband and White. I would request your Excellency to instruct those officers not to move their present camp, as every pass in Thibet is guarded by soldiers. It would be absolutely unheard of that the British Delegates should incur danger, and thereby give rise to cause for troubling the friendly relations between Great Britain and China, a matter of the utmost moment.

I have the honour to state, in conclusion, that my departure (for Khamba Jong) or the arrival of his Excellency Yu at his post will be communicated by despatch to your Excellency.

Inclosure 8 in No. 35.

*Deputy Commissioner Garrett to Government of Bengal.*

(Confidential.)

Darjeeling, October 26, 1903.

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith my Confidential Report for the week ending on Saturday the 24th instant.

2. The Chinaman, Tu-The-Pon, mentioned in my despatch of the , arrived in Darjeeling on the 24th instant, and I had an interview with him the same afternoon. At first he denied all knowledge of any order having been issued by the Thibetan Government prohibiting trade with British subjects; but when asked the meaning of the statement which he had made to my confidential agent at Kalimpong, he admitted that he had heard a rumour to the above effect, but stated that he had heard it at Gnatong and not at Pipithang; so far as he was aware, no such rumour was prevalent at Pipithang. He could not say whether the rumour was true, nor when the alleged order was issued by the Thibetan Government. On his way he saw no traders coming towards British territory. He confirmed the information already given as to the existence of bad feeling between the Chinese and Thibetans, and the unlikelihood of their combining. He also made the same statement to me as he did to my confidential agent, as to the present scarcity of rice in the Chumbi Valley and the reason of it.



3. One Tendup, Thibetan, of Lingtam Pachwai shop, arrived at Kalimpong on the 24th instant. He informed my confidential agent there that when he was at Tumo, near Rinchhegong, on the 15th instant, he heard that the Thibetan Government had passed orders that no Thibetan traders would be allowed to bring merchandize into British territory, and he himself had difficulty in getting a passport for his return. It is not supposed that the Chinese will consider themselves bound by this order, and probably Chinese merchants will come in as usual.

4. This morning I received a petition on another matter from a Mr. Korb, wool merchant of Kalimpong. In it he mentions incidentally that it appears probable that no wool will come in this season from Thibet, with the exception of the comparatively small quantity which has already passed the frontier and been stored at Gnatong.

5. I have nothing further to report.

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*Memorandum.*

(Confidential.)

*Darjeeling, October 26, 1903.*

Copy forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, for information.

(Signed) J. H. E. GARRETT,  
*Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling.*

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Inclosure 9 in No. 35.

*Lieutenant-Colonel Ravenshaw to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.)

*November 3, 1903.*

YOUR telegram, 28th October. Substance communicated to Minister. 500 yaks mentioned in my telegram of the 28th October were dispersed by Thibetan troops and many looted. Heavy snowstorm at Tipta La; five Nepalese frozen to death. Colonel Harak Jang considers almost impossible to deliver the yaks Tipta La, and has arranged to send all recoverable yaks to Phallut. Besides these, 1,000 yaks will be near Phallut about the 10th November. If Government of India still wish delivery at Tipta La, Minister can arrange to keep yaks at Phallut for a fortnight, pending information as to the exact date of meeting British escort at Tipta La. Phallut to Tipta La fifteen marches. Detailed report by my letter.

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Inclosure 10 in No. 35.

*Colonel Younghusband to Government of India.*

(Confidential.)

*Khamba Jong, October 28, 1903.*

WITH reference to my letter, dated the 21st October, 1903, and previous correspondence, I have the honour to submit the diary of Mr. Wilton for the period 20th to the 26th October, 1903.

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Inclosure 11 in No. 35.

*Diary of Mr. Wilton.*

October 20 to 26, 1903.

October 20, 1903.—Maximum temperature, 57·2 degrees; minimum temperature, 14·1 degrees. Clear weather.

There are rumours that a number of soldiers and rifles arrived at the Jong. Mr. Parr proposed to leave to-day for Darjeeling, viâ Yatung, but was unable to obtain any transport. He seized four pack ponies from the village. The Thibetans were restrained with some difficulty by the Chinese officials from attempting to rescue these animals.

October 21.—Maximum temperature, 55·2 degrees; minimum temperature, 13·9 degrees. Weather clear.



The local Chinese officials were unable to provide Mr. Parr with pack saddles. He seized four saddles. The villagers, said to have been instigated by Thibetan officials, the Tung-ji-Clien-po and the Jongpen, turned out about 100 strong to take the saddles back by force. Mr. Parr and his Gurkha servant stood by the saddles with rifles, and the Thibetans withdrew hastily. The Chinese officials compromised the matter by paying the owner 15 rupees. Mr. Parr left his camp in the afternoon, and reached Giri that night.

The Ba-du-la, a Shigatse Deputy, left to-day in a litter for a neighbouring village. He is said to be very sick.

October 22.—Maximum temperature, 57·5 degrees; minimum temperature, 18·8 degrees. Weather clear.

Mr. Parr stated that his two riding mules had been stolen during the night, and that he believed the theft had been instigated by the Tung-ji-Clien-po, who had tried hard to detain him until a reply should have been received from Lhasa to letters reporting the strengthening of our escort and the departure of Colonel Younghusband.

October 23.—Maximum temperature, 55·8 degrees; minimum temperature, 12·3 degrees. Weather clear, with cold wind in the afternoon.

The Chinese officials recovered Mr. Parr's mules, and he left for Yatung, via the Donkhia and Thankya Passes. This latter pass is reported to be guarded by Thibetan soldiers. Mr. Parr handed in the Amban's reply to the Viceroy's despatch.

October 24.—Maximum temperature, 55 degrees; minimum temperature, 14·5 degrees. Weather clear, with cold wind throughout the day.

It was reported that about 100 Thibetan rifles with ammunition, and large quantities of barley and fuel, were brought into the Jong to-day. About a score of Thibetan soldiers have been seen lately collecting fuel for the Jong.

It is also reported that daily drilling is going on at Rhe Jong, where a large force of cavalry has been also collected.

October 25.—Maximum temperature, 46·1 degrees; minimum temperature, 8·7 degrees. Weather clear.

There appear to be about 100 native militia in the Jong and twenty soldiers from Gyantse; fifteen men are said to be daily employed in the manufacture of native gunpowder. The villagers are reported to be denied access to the Jong.

October 26.—Maximum temperature, 51 degrees; minimum temperature, 12 degrees. Weather clear, with cold wind throughout the day.

The Thibetan officials continue to give secret and stringent orders that nothing whatsoever is to be sold to the British camp. The number of men stationed in the Jong has been increased, and probably now numbers over 200.

(Signed) E. C. WILTON.

Inclosure 12 in No. 35.

*Captain Kilkelly to Government of India.*

(Confidential.)

*Nepal, November 1, 1903.*

IN continuation of this Office telegram of to-day's date, I have the honour to forward the following account of an interview I had to-day with his Excellency the Prime Minister.

2. I conveyed to his Excellency the substance of Foreign Department telegram of the 28th October last. He expressed his thanks to the Government of India for their consideration and appreciation of the position of the Nepal Government. He understands that not more than 3,500 yaks will be required, and that he is at liberty to dispose of the remainder in Nepal by hiring them out as usual.

3. The Prime Minister next showed me a despatch received by him from Colonel Harak Jang, dated the 25th October. It states that in compliance with Colonel Younghusband's message, which reached him on the 18th October, he immediately sent off runners to try and stop the yaks which were proceeding to Khamba Jong via Tipta La Pass, and which were timed to reach the pass on the 21st October. As the distance was 8 marches, the runners could not reach in time, and on the 21st October the yaks in two batches of 250 each reached Tipta La. The first batch crossed the pass and encamped at Phatuk at 5 P.M.

The yaks were accompanied by drivers and two unarmed Nepalese officers only. At Phatuk they were met by four mounted Thibetan officers and about sixty or eighty men



armed with swords and knives. These men informed the Nepalese that they could not proceed further: they then rushed in among the animals, and terrifying them with rattles, dispersed them in all directions. There is little hope that any of these will be recovered. It was dark when the occurrence took place, and the yaks are probably all looted.

The second batch was opposed at Tipta La and also dispersed, but there is hope that some of these may be recovered. No opposition was given to the Thibetans by the Nepalese, as the latter were unarmed.

On the night of the 21st October, there was a heavy fall of snow, and five Nepalese drivers were frozen to death at Tipta La Pass. Under these circumstances, Colonel Harak Jang thinks it almost impossible to deliver the yaks at Tipta La.

He has written to Mr. White and to the Deputy Commissioner, Darjeeling, that arrangements may be made to take delivery of yaks at Phallut, and he is writing to Colonel Younghusband to ask him to arrange that delivery be taken by the 12th November at Phallut.

4. In view of the above information, the Prime Minister asks whether the Government of India still wish the yaks to be delivered at Tipta La. If so, he desires that definite arrangements be made to have British escorts at Tipta La to meet the batches of yaks, and that the dates of meeting should be accurately fixed, and that having been once fixed, every endeavour be made to adhere to them.

He informed me that, by about the 10th November, 1,000 yaks or more would be collected at or near Phallut, and that others would be coming in to Phallut at early dates.

In the event of the yaks being still wanted at Tipta La, I pressed the Prime Minister to let me know the longest period he could keep at Phallut the animals now collecting there.

He said he thought that he could arrange for them to remain there a fortnight.

The journey from Phallut to Tipta La takes fifteen days for yaks.

The Prime Minister asks me to inform him, as early as possible, when and where the yaks will be required.

Under the circumstances, he is of opinion that delivery at Tipta La will be extremely difficult, and suggests that arrangements would be much facilitated by delivery being taken at Phallut.

#### Inclosure 13 in No. 35.

*Deputy Commissioner Garrett to Government of Bengal.*

(Confidential.)

*Darjeeling, November 2, 1903.*

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith my Confidential Report for the week ending on Saturday, 31st October, 1903.

2. The man Tendup, mentioned in paragraph 3 of my Report, dated 26th ultimo, informed my Confidential Agent at Kalimpong that about three weeks ago the Thibetan Government at Lhasa issued strict orders warning all their soldiers to be ready to take the field against the British at a moment's notice. The inhabitants of Rinchhengong and the neighbourhood are firmly convinced that war will soon commence, and are, in consequence, in great perturbation.

3. With reference to the alleged stoppage of trade by the Thibetan Government, I have directed Mr. Bell to hold a careful inquiry as ordered in Government letter of the 27th ultimo, but I have not yet received his Report. It seems clear, however, from the information received by me during the week that the Thibetan Government has prohibited trade with British subjects, and a Chinaman, who arrived at Kalimpong a few days ago, stated that efforts will be made to prevent Chinamen, as well as Thibetans, from trading. One Phup-Chhiring, Bhutia, informed the Manager of the Kalimpong Government Estate that, owing to the strictness of the orders of the Thibetan Government, he thought it would be useless to attempt to come in from Phari by the ordinary route, and so he travelled by bye-paths to Langrang, and thence reached Sikkim through the Jelap Pass.

4. There is no doubt now that the rumour of the capture of 500 yaks by the Thibetans is unfounded. It apparently arose from the fact that the convoy of yaks which was to have gone to Khamba Jong via the Tipta La Pass was unable to cross the frontier, as it was found that the pass was being held by the Thibetans in force.



*Memorandum.*

(Confidential.)

*Darjeeling, November 2, 1903.*

Copy forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, for information.

(Signed)

J. H. E. GARRETT,  
*Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling.*

Inclosure 14 in No. 35.

*Government of India to Government of Bengal.*

(Telegraphic.)

*November 7, 1903.*

MY telegram, 2nd November. Yaks.

Please keep us informed by telegram of progress of arrangements and of numbers of yaks awaiting delivery at Phallut.

No. 36.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received December 1.)*

(No. 260.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, December 1, 1903.*

ON 27th November, the new Resident for Thibet left Tachienlu.

No. 37.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received December 7.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram to the Viceroy, dated the 3rd December, relative to relations between Great Britain and Russia.

*India Office, December 7, 1903.*

Inclosure in No. 37.

*Mr. Brodrick to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*December 3, 1903.*

ON the 25th November, Lord Lansdowne and the Russian Ambassador held a conversation, of which the following is a summary :—

(Very Confidential.)

As regards Persia. Lord Lansdowne saw no reason why we should not recognize that Russia, as "limitrophe" Power, possessed in the north of Persia a certain preponderance. He disclaimed any desire on our part to refuse to Russia facilities for commerce in the south of Persia and on the Gulf, but stated that we should expect to be consulted, should the embargo on the construction of railways be removed, and a project for the construction of a line through southern Persia be contemplated, and that, in that event, an arrangement, by which the control over the southern portion of the line and its approaches to the sea would be given to us, might be amicably arrived at.

As regards Seistan. Lord Lansdowne said that we should expect the Russian Government to abstain from all interference with the trade routes which lead through the country, and to recognize that the province is wholly under British influence.

As regards Afghanistan. Lord Lansdowne outlined in the following terms the sort of arrangement which, speaking for himself alone, he would be prepared to lay before the Government of India and His Majesty's Government in regard to Afghanistan :—



"Russia would be expected by His Majesty's Government to recognize in the most formal manner that the foreign policy of Afghanistan was under our guidance, and that the country itself was completely within our sphere of influence. Subject to this proviso, and subject, of course, to the necessity of obtaining the concurrence of the Ameer in any arrangement which might be arrived at, Lord Lansdowne was prepared to admit that in regard to matters of a non-political complexion and of a purely local character direct communication between Afghan and Russian officials might take place, these communications, however, being confined to those officials only who were connected with the local administration of affairs adjoining the frontier. An undertaking on the part of the Russian Government to abstain from sending Agents into Afghanistan would also be required."

Upon the Ambassador's asking whether there were any Afghan officials qualified for the purpose, Lord Lansdowne expressed the opinion that no difficulty need be anticipated on that score. A copy of the despatch No. 305 of the 5th November, 1903, to the Chargé d'Affaires at St. Petersburg (copy of which was forwarded to India with the Political Secretary's letter of the 20th November), was then handed by Lord Lansdowne to the Ambassador for his private information, with an explanation that the tone of the Russian communication of the 5th October had been deeply resented by His Majesty's Government, and that the despatch had been prepared in consequence. Instructions, however, had been sent to Mr. Spring-Rice to take no action for the present on the despatch, in consequence of the conciliatory character of the communications which the Russian Ambassador had made on his return to his post in London, and Lord Lansdowne expressed the hope that His Majesty's Government might ultimately find themselves in a position to withhold the despatch altogether.

As regards Thibet. Lord Lansdowne said that Russia would be expected by His Majesty's Government to recognize that that country by its geographical position was within our sphere of influence, and to give an undertaking to abstain from sending Agents into Thibetan territory.

No. 38.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received December 7.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 6th December, relative to the Thibetan negotiations.

*India Office, December 7, 1903.*

Inclosure in No. 38.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*December 6, 1903.*

THE Thibetan General at Yatung is reported by Colonel Younghusband to have asked to be given a pledge that if the Thibetans make no attack upon us, no attack will be made by us on them. To this Colonel Younghusband has replied that we are conducting the Mission, under adequate protection, to a place better fitted for negotiations, that we are not at war with Thibet, and that, unless we are ourselves attacked, we shall not attack the Thibetans.

No. 39.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received December 7.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, dated the 19th November, relative to Thibetan affairs.

Copy has been sent to the Intelligence Department, War Office.

*India Office, December 7, 1903.*



## Inclosure 1 in No. 39.

*Government of India to Mr. Wilton.*

(Telegraphic.)

November 9, 1903.

LETTER from Viceroy to Amban being posted to you to-night. Please arrange to transmit this to Lhasa with Chinese translation, without delay.

Younghusband leaves for Darjeeling to-day, and arrangements for the onward move of Mission to Gyantse, to which Secretary of State had agreed, may be made quietly in readiness for his arrival.

## Inclosure 2 in No. 39.

*Captain Kilkelly to Government of India.*

(Confidential.)

*The Residency, Nepal, November 3, 1903.*

IN continuation of my letter, dated the 27th October last, I have the honour to send herewith, for the information of the Government of India, certain papers regarding Thibetan affairs.

2. I also forward two papers in Thibetan, which were sent to me by the Prime Minister, and would ask that two printed copies of each of their translations may kindly be furnished to me, and the originals returned when no longer required.

## Inclosure 3 in No. 39.

*Deputy Commissioner Garrett to Lieutenant-Colonel Ravenshaw.*

(Telegraphic.)

October 28, 1903

MILITARY supply want 1,500 hill sheep per month. Could you kindly arrange with Durbar to ascertain whether contractors are available in Nepal who would undertake to deliver as above, and, if so, at what rates. Arrangements could be made to take over sheep at Darjeeling.

## Inclosure 4 in No. 39.

*Lieutenant-Colonel Ravenshaw to Deputy Commissioner Garrett.*

(Telegraphic.)

October 31, 1903.

INQUIRIES are being made as to meat contractors. Durbar is afraid sheep cannot be obtained. Will wire again.

## Inclosure 5 in No. 39.

*Lieutenant-Colonel Ravenshaw to Deputy Commissioner Garrett.*

(Telegraphic.)

November 3, 1903.

MY telegram of the 24th October. The 500 coolies will be delivered by Colonel Harak Jang, as before, by about the 10th November.

## Inclosure 6 in No. 39.

*Letter from the Nepal Representative at Lhasa.*

(Translation.)

WITH due respect, I beg to lay before your Highness in the following lines the news that I have heard and been able to gather here for your Highness' information.

The other day I reported to your Highness about the suspected disappearance of the Khendechhega from here. I now have some further information about him from Ghomang Gharpon, who states as follows :—

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"Khendechhega, it appeared, had again gone away towards the north on Sunday, the 32nd Sraavan, in the evening; he, with six other men, all mounted on horses, passed a night on his return journey in a house near Thisulaprang, and on the day following went to Norpulinka to present himself before the Potala Lhama, where he is still staying. It appears that he has come in haste from Nakchewkha, covering the journey from there to this place in four or five days, and leaving all his things and men behind. He possesses a general "Perwana" issued in his favour by the Potala Lhama under his own seal, in which all the Jhompons of different places whom it might concern are ordered to supply him immediately, at any time, be it night or day, any number of horses, transport animals, and men that he may require, threatening those who may fail to meet his requirements with such punishment as he (the Khendechhega) himself, who is authorized to inflict the same at once, may deem proper. With the help of this "Perwana" he has, it is said, been able to travel all along on relays of horses, and that many of his men, and camels laden with his things, will arrive in due course."

One Dhorje says :—

"At the time when the Chhongdui Council was held to consider the question of the dispute with the British on the Ghamba Jhong side, some of the Khembus of the Gumbus had spoken to the effect that, having once for all renounced all temporal concern for devotion on spiritual matters, fighting did not lie in their province, their legitimate duty being the performance of worship and prayers, which they would perform as might be required of them; that there were the Dhaibuns and the army, who had all along been receiving their pay, to do service in time of emergencies, and as such it was they who should bear the whole responsibility of military duties, that consequently those paid troops should move first, next to them the people in general above 18 years of age and below 60, and last of all, even if these be not sufficient, would come the turn of the spiritual monks, when they would go forth to battle for the sake of their religious tenets. In this connection, the Potala Lhama has imposed a fine of two gold "taks" upon the Kembu of Lusilin, belonging to the Dhaibung Gumba, for his having first spoken such indiscreet words."

A clerk of Yamun brought to me a paper written in Thibetan characters (herewith inclosed), said to be a copy of a reply from the Kazies of the Kasyal and the Chhongdui Council, to a letter of the Amba. In bringing this copy to me the clerk said that it was written down by him from memory, and made the following statement :—

"The Fapoon Hotarin, the Chinese Commissioner on the Boundary Commission at Ghamba Jhong, had sent a despatch to the Amba tendering his resignation and requesting for an early relief on the ground of ill-health, viz., the bleeding from the nose which he has long been suffering from, and informing that the British have been excited over the matter of the Sikkimese, whom they have sent for making some purchases, having been kept imprisoned by the Thibetans, about which he expressed his apprehension of some complication being created by the British unless these prisoners be not released. On receipt of this communication the Amba wrote to the Kazies stating that since the Thibetan accused Hotarin of having sided with the British, while he too has applied for leave, Thong Lin Deboyu of Domo is being deputed to replace him, and asking that necessary arrangements for horses and transport animals be soon made for the journey of the said Thong Lin to Ghamba, and the return of Hotarin to Lhasa; besides he wanted that the men whom the British have sent for making some purchases, and have been kept in confinement by the Jhong of Digarcha, be soon released. To this the Kazies have sent a reply, of which I attempted to write out a copy from memory, which I have brought to you."

Another clerk of the Yamun says :—

"The British at Ghamba Jhong are detaining the horses and mules coming up towards Thibet, and are impressing them into service, for carrying military stores on the Sikkim side. They are also going on with the work of making fortification at Ghamba, while the Thibetan Ghaibuns there are sitting idly."

The Phokhang Dheba says :—

"The Khendechhega has at present free access to the Potala Lama. He was also present to see the "Ajilamu" dance at the Dhaibung Gumba, where the Khembus of Hamdong-Dachhang section of the said Gumba, had prepared for him a high seat of



Arlo Cochin (silk cloth) with curtain. The other spectators were heard to make a remark about him among themselves saying that he too is a seed for introducing Europeans into our country."

The Thibetan sepoys who have assembled here are being engaged in the manufacture of gunpowder and bullets.

I further beg to submit herewith a paper brought to me by a clerk of the Yamun said to be a copy of a letter sent by the Amba to the Kasyal office yesterday.

The Thibetans here speak of a Sikkim Raja's son named Dhulpeku, who has received his English education in a school at Darjeeling, as the informant on all matters at Ghamba Jhong to Mr. White

The people of Silling here talk of rumours of there being no subsidence of internal troubles as yet in China, and of the probability of further disturbances again arising there.

A clerk of Nechang says that thirteen persons including the fifth grade Thamedar named Mipon have been appointed for the work of raising troops at Kham, Seopando, Lhojhong Dapa, and Lhoka, and that they have taken leave of the Potala Lama and will now start soon after having obtained necessary orders and papers from the Kasyal office.

Some seventy or eighty tailors are at present engaged in making small tents in the premises of the temple of Bhagwan.

The Interpreter attached to the Teep Arsenal says that fifteen sepoys with two havildars are going away from Lhasa in a few days to teach the sepoys of the Gyanchi side the use of Martini-Henry pattern rifles. The same informant also states that the Banda Kazi has been appointed the Chief Officer of War on the Gyanchi side and that 100 sepoys will form his escort.

The Mongrel, whom I had sent towards Nakchewkha to obtain information of that side, has returned. He reports that no foreigners have come by that way, except the Sopus, who were constantly coming in, and that as he was returning from Nakchewkha, at a place called Phondo, he saw the Khendechhega *alias* Chhengi Khembu, who was coming from the north accompanied by six other horsemen, put up the night at the Jhang and depart the next morning in haste towards Lhasa. I have sent this man again towards Nakchewkha to collect information of that side.

The Thibetans here all talk of the advisability of having recourse to evasions with the British for the present, and commence hostilities only towards the month of Kartic should any such eventualities come to pass, as cold will begin to become severe at that time, which is an advantage to Thibet.

It is said that an order has been issued to Fari Jhong by the Kasyal office not to allow to pass the horses and mules going down from Thibet towards India, on the ground that the British impress these very animals for carrying up the military stores intended for an attack upon Thibet.

Dated Thursday, 11th Bhadra, Sambat 1960, corresponding with the 27th August 1903.

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Inclosure 7 in No. 39.

*Letter from the Nepal Representative at Lhasa.*

(Translation.)

WITH due respect, I beg to acknowledge receipt of your Highness' three favours dated Tuesday, the 30th Ashar, and in reply thereto beg to state as follows:—

With reference to your Highness' inquiry as to the exact position and locality of a place known as Yangwachin, its distance from Digarcha and the Russian border, and the nature of the country lying between it and the places named, about which your Highness has been pleased to instruct me to gather and send all available and correct information, I beg to state in the following lines the information that I have obtained about it from one Dhorje. That place, he says, lies four days' journey away to the north-west of Lhasa, and seven days' journey away to the north-east of Digarcha, the intervening parts of the country lying all through inhabited and cultivated lands. There is also a Thibetan Jhong there. Beyond that place towards the north the country is destitute of any human habitation except at a few places where cattle only can be kept. No Thibetans ever go beyond it except a few who go to a salt mine which lies at a distance of some fifteen or sixteen days journey north of it; and although it is



said that there is also a road leading from it to Russia, it is not a main road. Cold is very severe there, and the fact of the part of the country being uninhabited and barren makes the place inaccessible, and it is said, that one cannot pave his way through it. Nobody goes to that side and my informant says that all this is simply hearsay. There is, however, a main road leading from that place straight up through the north of Lhasa to Nakchewkha. I am in search of a man who has been to the salt mine or from thence to the Russian border. When I get him I shall try to obtain as much information as possible and report the same to your Highness.

I have also received your Highness' instruction to arrange to obtain reliable information about the British-Thibetan dispute on the Ghamba side and to transmit the same in the quickest possible way if anything important is to be communicated. (Here I beg to state that Khamba Jhong is the same as Ghamba Jhong). I had a mind of sending a man towards Ghamba, but fearing that some suspicion might arise if I send one of our own men and as all letters sent from Ghamba are opened by the Fapoon and Dhaibuns, allowing only letters on private matters to pass and intercepting those that deal on politics, I selected a half-cast son of a Nepali named Abiharkha Guvaju for the purpose. This Mongrel is a clerk of the Chinese at Digarcha, by the Fapoon of which place he has been sent here to draw the pay of the Chinese troops stationed on Gyanchi and Digarcha side. To him I promised 1,000 mohars (Thibetan) if he would go to Ghamba either on the pretence of carrying the pay of the Chinese troops or on any other pretence, and collecting all available information of that place, send the same to me and to your Highness direct through Ditha Kirman Gurung, either by Chinese dāk or by the hands of bearers up to the Nepalese post-office at Tatapani, near Kutī. He has accepted this offer and has signed an agreement to me to that effect, at the same time expressing his willingness to keep this transaction secret under a penalty of any punishment that may be inflicted upon him by my Government should he ever divulge it. I have also written to Ditha Tirman Gurung to stay on at Digarcha until I call him back. My instruction to him is to collect information and send the same to me or to your Highness direct when there is anything urgent and important to be communicated. I have also furnished him with two Thibetan passports obtained on some pretence, for being utilized in case he might have occasion to dispatch his letter to your Highness by the hand of a messenger. I heard from the Mongrel named above that the said Ditha has posted a letter to your Highness by the Chinese dāk. It would be interesting to know if that letter reached your Highness. I can rely on its safe conduct as far as Kutī, but here it falls into the hands of the local Dheba, who may look with suspicion upon the letter posted at an intermediate station, and then I have some misgivings of its being put off or tampered with.

In accordance with your Highness' instructions I called at the Kasyal office on Thursday, the 4th Bhadra, with a view to sound the Kazies on the question of the Indo-Thibetan dispute. The Seokhang, Banda, and Horkhang Kazies were present there at the time. I give below the conversation I had with them on the subject.

*Myself.*—I hear that the British, Chinese, and Thibetan Commissioners are meeting at Ghamba Jhong to discuss about a pending dispute, about the boundary and certain grazing rights, as also on the question of opening Thibet to the Indian trade. I, who am here in this capital among you as your personal friend and a friend of your Government, have not the least information as to what the matter is, what it will come to, what the British motives are, and what your future course will be. I get such information only if chance brings it to me in the shape of flying rumours from afar, and I know not even as much as those common men in the street know. It does not look well before the public that such a state of things should exist between friends. Wise as you are, I need hardly draw your attention to this. Consider me not to be an outsider, but take me for one who belongs to your group. The cordiality that exists between our Governments is not of a recent origin; it is of a long standing. I should think that I should have got some hints from you, when such an important thing has come to pass. I expect to hear from you all about the matter. If there is anything which my Maharaja can do for you, please let me know privately and I will duly make a report of it to his Highness. Depend upon it that his Highness will be glad to do all he possibly can for your good. First of all, will you please let me know what is the subject of your dispute with the British, what do they say, and how far you have resolved to proceed in the matter. If I can send the information to his Highness, I am sure he will do the best he can.

*The Kazies.*—It is very kind of you to speak of this to us, and we thank you for it and for the kind expression of your sympathy with our country. It was never our



intention to show any indifference towards you in this matter. The other day when you took the trouble to call at this office, we briefly gave you information of the state of affairs on the Ghamba Jhong side. As nothing was then known as to how matters will take its turn, we did not think it advisable to uselessly bother you by speaking about things which have not assumed any definite shape. If ever we come to pass through a crisis we naturally hope to look to the Treaty concluded between the two Governments, having God as a witness to it and to the intimacy which we have for the Gurkha Government; consequently, we take it to be our duty to approach, in due course, by any means, his Highness the Maharaja with all the solicitations we have to make. If we do not go to him, where are we to go? Let us now tell you how matters stand. Whether or not Sikkim formerly belonged to Thibet is a thing well known to all; but now that country has passed under the control of the British. In the 59th year of the age of the Emperor Chhyantun the boundary line was demarcated by stone piles, and again, at the conclusion of the last war, it was arranged by constructing a gate at a place called Gnatong on the Fari side, making it a market place for traders from Thibet, and from where no British should go further up. As the traders from the plains did not come to do trading business there, the Thibetans by going down have still kept the trade open. Last year on the Ghamba side, one Mr. White encroached upon the boundary-line demarcated as stated above, by the Emperor of China, and forcibly planted flags, with the help of troops, at several places below Ghamba Jhong; our men remonstrated, stating that the boundary was not there, and pointed out where the true boundary-lines were. He, however, paid no heed to them, and having planted the flags, retired. This was duly reported to us, but we did not think it then necessary to move in the matter as we did not attach any importance to the wayward conduct of Mr. White, who planted flags stealthily and in a perverse manner on our lands. Although the British are at present noted to be a big Power, we never thought that in international matters such injustice and violence would hold good. This year the Amba received a communication from the Chunji Tathin Yamun of Peking to the effect that the Bara Lat of India has written to the Government of China, informing them that British Commissioners, for discussing the Indo-Thibetan frontier question, would be on the frontier on Ashar Sudi 13th, and requesting that the Thibetan Government, too, be desired to depute their duly accredited Commissioners, vested with full authority to settle the pending questions. Accordingly the Amba wrote to us, and although there was nothing to be done from our side, we, in obedience to the order received from Peking, deputed two Thibetan officers, viz., Dhichhemu Limbar and Chharong Dhaibun, for the purpose. As it was for negotiation alone that they were sent, we did not send any military escort with them; so they were accompanied only by their servants and camp followers. On Mr. White's attempting to come straight up to Ghamba Jhong with 200 sepoys and two guns, our Dhaibuns caught hold of the reins of his horse, telling him that if he has come to discuss frontier matters, the boundary would be the right place for that, neither side entering into other's territory. Mr. White then grew violent, and having beaten the servants and followers of the said Dhaibun and having also intimidated him by pointing a gun at him, feigning ignorance of his identity, he encroached upon the boundary by force, and having proceeded up into the Thibetan territory, constructed fortification below Ghamba Jhong. Just as you say, the principal object of the British appears to be the opening of Thibet to Indian trade and the establishment of postal communication, with free access to the British into the country. Any of these demands, however, we cannot agree to, as being against the tenets of our religion. The British take umbrage at this, and if they commence hostilities, we, too, will have to abide by the sworn Agreement, signed by all the temporal monks at the Temple of Bhagwan, which requires us all to fight to the last for the sake of our religion, even though all males be decimated and only females remain to take up arms. On a previous occasion some Russians appeared in the country of Kham with the avowed intention of travelling into Thibet and making some presents to the Potala Lama. As it was against our religion to let them come in, we obstructed their advance and a scuffle ensued in which there were loss of lives on both sides. Again, people of other countries, such as the Japanese and other Europeans, come armed with passports from His Majesty the Emperor of China, granting them permission to travel into Thibet, and make strenuous efforts to gain their object. Since it is a thing which would break our religious tenets, we had to make them return from our frontiers by offering something to some and using hard or soft measures to others, as necessity required. All this the British also must be fully aware of. We cannot allow the British to come into Thibet by breaking our oath and religious principles. Granting for argument's



sake that such a concession is granted to the British, will not the Russians, Japanese, and other Europeans demand the same thing from us, in which case, how are we to satisfy them all? To take them all in is simply to court the destruction of this country. In China, we have a glaring example before us of the extent of mischief which they are capable of making. When even such a big Sovereign as the Emperor of China has been reduced to such a plight by them, would they feel it anything to destroy a country like ours? Taking all these into consideration, we are determined upon, notwithstanding all that may befall on us, not allowing the British to come into Thibet. Our religious tenets, to abide by which we have taken an oath which is also put down in writing, require it, and consequently we are collecting all our available troops. We consider it to be our duty to lay our grievances before his Highness the Maharaja through any available channel should we happen to be sorely pressed by our antagonist. For the present, as things have not taken any definite shape, we have not done any such thing. These are the facts of the case as it stands at present. But to-day the Sathay Kazi is not here; he has gone to Yoluphokhang. This is a very important matter, and as such, we would all consult together once and talk over about it with you again.

*Myself.*—I have spoken out my mind to you. There is a proverb among us which says that "Snowclad mountains look beautiful from afar, but are difficult," so it is pleasant to hear about war, but difficult to be a party in it. You know whether or not war is a thing which is fraught with troubles to all living beings. Methinks the best course for you would be to avert it as far as possible by skilful diplomatic means, invoking also the aid of friends.

*The Kazies.*—We have informed you of the real facts of the case. Circumstances have compelled us to follow the course we have taken. Mr. White, the British Commissioner, has made a forcible entry into our territory with his armed forces and his conduct all through has been that of applying force in all his dealings with us without any consideration to justice. So when the British are bent on having their own wayward course with a strong hand, we see the futility of our asking them to refrain from following such a course. Thus it is that we are compelled to collect all our available forces. This being a country mostly inhabited by men who devote their time in worship and prayers, we have no standing army capable of being mobilized at a moment's notice; so we have to depend on the gradual collection of our forces beforehand to be prepared for emergency should the negotiation with the British fall through. Yes; war is a thing which brings in trouble even to worms and insects, but what are we to do if there be no alternative course left to us? These British do not allow us to remain in peace. This matter, on which we have the pleasure of talking with you, is a serious one. The Sathay Kazi is not here to-day. In a day or two we would hold a consultation among ourselves and then talk over the matter with you again.

*Myself.*—Very good. I see in your dispute with the British a seed of a most serious matter. There is, you know, a proverb among you which says that "There should be a bund before the water is in, and a precaution before the thing has gone wrong." The difference between mending matters before they have taken a bad turn and mending them after it, is as great as the earth is from heaven. I hope you will give it your careful consideration.

The interview then ended and I returned home. Five days after I was again desired to meet the Kazies. This time there were only the Seokhang and Horkhang Kazies. The following conversation took place between them and myself on the subject of their dispute with the British.

*The Kazies.*—We had a talk with the Sathay Kazi on the subject of our conversation with you the other day, and informed him of all what passed between us. He said that, since the two Governments have long been bound together by ties of cordial friendship by a Treaty concluded most solemnly between them, it was very good of the representative of the Nepal Government to inquire into the matter with such deep sympathy towards this country, and that we have nothing to evade or conceal from him, nor would any such conduct on our part be of any benefit to us. He also expressed his pleasure for our laying before you the whole matter as it stood. We had a consultation among ourselves in the matter, and what we have to tell you is this. We understood you to say that you wished us to point out to you any grounds on which, at your representation to his Highness the Maharaja, he may do the best he can to



intercede on our behalf. On this point we have to say : Firstly, the principal motive by which the British are guided in their action with us, is their wish to have a free access and a postal communication in Thibet. This, of course, as we have already told you, we cannot allow, as being against the tenets of our religion. By having their association and courting friendship with them, even the glorious Emperor of China had to fall so low. This is a glaring instance of what an intercourse with them means. Our religious principles are strictly against allowing them to come in, and if in defending these principles, anything untoward happen to us, the people of this country (women inclusive) are bound to fight for the sake of their religion. All the temporal monks have solemnly taken an oath to this effect. We cannot on any account allow the British to come in. We are not prepared to move an inch to meet with their wishes in this direction. Secondly, we hear that the next contention of the British is that part of the country up to somewhere near Ghamba Jhong belongs to Sikkim, and they base their claim on a paper alleged to have been written by the late Rhrintarin Amba, and speak various other things. Even though the said Amba had ever actually written such a paper it cannot be binding on us, because this country belongs to the Thibetan Government, and when any part of it was going to be alienated, their consent was absolutely necessary on all negotiations concerning the same, and their seal and signature, signifying their assent, should have been obtained on it. Anything done without our knowledge cannot be accepted as binding on us. His Majesty the Emperor of China has demarcated the Thibetan-Sikkimese boundary with stone piles in the 59th year of Chhanglung. These stone piles are still in existence ; besides there are records both here and in China about this demarcation. The said Mr. White has spurned the cause of justice to come and plant flags in a perverse and stealthy manner, and has proceeded to Ghamba Jhong by force, where he is now staying. Thirdly, the British say that Gnatong is not a suitable place for trade, and so they want to come a little up inside Thibet and select a good place for the purpose. Since, by their present conduct, they have shown that they could not stick to the arrangement made before, what assurance can there be that they will stick hereafter to the arrangement that may again be made ? The British are by nature always aggressive, just like a drop of oil dropped on a sheet of paper which gradually spreads itself. Consequently, we cannot agree to this, too. On all these three heads we have nothing to tell you that we would be satisfied if so much is done. Being inclined to believe that no understanding can be arrived at on any of these points, we are collecting all our available troops. The Governments of Nepal and Thibet have long been bound together by ties of cordial friendship, and we both believe in the same God. Now, with one of these two—viz., Thibet—these Mlekshas are treating in such a high-handed manner. Should we be very sorely pressed, we depend upon the favour of the Nepal Government for assistance with the troops. We agree to pay all their expenses besides a royalty of fifty rupees Thibetan mohars for each unit of soldier that would be sent to our assistance. When the time comes we would apply for it either through you, or will send a representation direct to his Highness the Maharaja.

*Myself.*—The war which you talk about is the last recourse to fall to, when every other means for an amicable settlement have failed. It is not an easy thing to undertake ; besides, it brings in trouble to the people in general and to the country at large. You must also think that you are not contending with your equal. I have given you what I considered to be the best advice. I hope you will move in the matter with proper care and caution before it is too late. Past mistakes are always very difficult to be mended afterwards.

*The Kazies.*—We have given you full details of all what we had to say to you. There is God above to see whether it was we or the British who have acted in a high-handed manner. We have now asked the British to retire from Ghamba Jhong to the boundary established by His Majesty the Emperor of China, and carry on the negotiation there, and have also told them that if they refuse to retire as requested all negotiations must cease. Now so much for the present. Should there be anything hereafter about which we may have occasion to speak to you we would gladly inform you of it. We are all very much pleased at your kind inquiry ; it was very good of you to make it.

After this conversation I took leave of the Kazies and returned home.

In pursuance to your Highness' instructions I am collecting information about the Sopu Lama at present residing at the Dhaibung Gumba, whom the Khendechhega had brought with him on his return from Russia. I hope to give in my next all the



available information about him. In a few days I shall also talk with the Kazies about the Khendechhega, as instructed by your Highness, and will send a report about it in due course. In the meantime my letter under a separate cover will give your Highness the latest information that I had about him.

I have also received your Highness' instruction about obtaining information regarding Maghay, Sandukhar, and Nesingkar, and the Russian residents there, from the man whom I had arranged to send towards Sopustan with Ghomang Gharpon, the merchant, on a pretence of buying horses. I am sorry to inform your Highness that the man could not be sent as was previously arranged, on account of Ghomang Gharpon's inability to leave this place. This merchant does not appear to be going away soon, so I have arranged to send a Mohammedan interpreter of our's with another Mohammedan to visit those places and the surrounding countries, in order to collect information as required by your Highness. These men have been with necessary expenses, and have started from here on the 4th Bhadra. At Nakchewkha all travellers are strictly examined by the Thibetans, but as there are precedents of Mohammedans having been allowed to pass that way to go to Silling Khar, I have instructed them to manage to pass through it by citing the precedents if they are stopped there. I inquired of Ghomang Gharpon about the identity of Maghay, Sandukhar, and Nesingkar. He says that Maghay and Makhay are the same, and that Khar means a walled city, so that Nesing must be identical with Neshi; but he does not know whether Sandukhar and Sanchu are the same. I shall also try to collect as much information here about them as I possibly can.

Dated Thursday, Bhadra 11th, Sambat 1960, corresponding with the 27th August, 1903.

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Inclosure 8 in No. 39.

*Colonel Harak Jung Thapa to Colonel Younghusband.*

October 27, 1903.

I AM in receipt of your telegram from Simla desiring me to keep the 550 yaks at Walloong, for the dispatch of which you would communicate with me shortly after arranging to escort them. I am sorry to inform you that the first batch of 500 that were to have crossed the Tiptala Pass on the 21st were duly sent according to the former arrangements, as your letter to me desiring to detain their departure for the present from Walloong reached me on the 18th, and as it takes six days' journey for runners from here to Walloong, so my message could not reach in time to detain them, but they crossed Tiptala Pass on the 21st, and were driven back and passage not allowed by the Thibetans; so I hope you will fully understand the situation there and send a suitable escort to accompany them from Tiptala. Besides these 500, I have 400 or 500 yaks at Walloong which, if you will like, can be sent after them, provided they, too, have escort to accompany. As for other yaks, I am concentrating them at Phalut, as they are coming from a month's distance to Phalut, travelling over lower valleys than those of Darjeeling and Sikkim, so there is no fear of their not being able to stand the climate of low valleys in Sikkim. So I hope you will accordingly arrange for fodder and provisions for drivers at each stage, and send guide and men to Phalut to take them away. As these 2,000 yaks cannot be expected to go all in one batch, so they will have to be sent in four or five batches. Arrange guides and men accordingly. I see quite impossible to send these 2,000 via Walloong, as it takes fifteen days from Phalut to Walloong, and driver not agree to enter Thibet after middle of November, but they can go Phalut. I will require men and guide for first batch on or about the 15th November. The men who opposed the passage of the yaks at Tiptala consisted of about 150 Thibetans armed with knives; the number may increase in the second attempt. So you will do the necessary. I am sorry to say our people cannot enter Thibet after the middle of November, so please make haste and give me instructions as to when I should dispatch the Walloong yaks.

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## Inclosure 9 in No. 39.

*Deputy Commissioner Garrett to Government of Bengal.**Darjeeling, November 4, 1903.*

WITH reference to your Memorandum, dated the 27th ultimo, directing that an inquiry should be held to ascertain whether the Thibetan Government had actually prohibited trade with British subjects, I have the honour to inform you that as my presence was required in Darjeeling in connection with the purchase of pack ponies for transport, I issued the following instructions to Mr. Bell:—

“Copy forwarded to Mr. C. A. Bell with request that he will hold the inquiry ordered by Government. He should first ascertain what amount of what commodities has ordinarily reached British territory by the end of October; he should then inquire what amount of each commodity has actually come in this year. He should endeavour to trace the source of the rumour that the Thibetan Government has prohibited trade, and should record the statements of any persons who have knowledge on the subject: reference on this point may be made to the records of the Confidential Agent at Kalimpong. His inquiry should be as thorough as is possible, and should be completed without avoidable delay, *all other work being, if necessary, postponed.*”

I now beg to submit copy of a report which has been received from him to-day in compliance with the instructions issued to him, and to state that there can no longer be any doubt that the Thibetan authorities have prohibited trade with British subjects.

2. Copies of this letter and its annexure are being forwarded to the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, to Colonel Younghusband, and to the Commissioner of the Division.

*Indorsed by Deputy Commissioner Garrett.**Darjeeling, November 4, 1903.*

Copy forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, for information.

## Inclosure 10 in No. 39.

*Mr. Bell to Deputy Commissioner Garrett.**Kalimpong, November 2, 1903.*

WITH reference to your Memorandum, dated the 28th ultimo, and received by me on the 30th ultimo, I have the honour to report as follows:—

1. There is no doubt that the Thibetan authorities have stopped the trade route via Yatung, the route by which practically all the Thibetan trade comes in. This fact is already proved (a) by direct proof the prohibition, (b) by the ceasing of the trade.

2. Direct proof of the prohibition is difficult to procure, since the persons who can best prove it are the Thibetans themselves, who are stopped from coming in. Babu Tashi Wang-Di, the Head Clerk here, has, however, been able to bring me to-day a Thibetan, named Phup Tashi, who has slipped through by another pass via Kheri, with some miscellaneous articles of merchandise. He states clearly that several mulemen had been stopped at Yatung by the Thibetan official there from coming into British territory, and turned back to Rin Chhengong. These mulemen told him this, and so he came round by the Kheri route, which is a difficult one with a bad road. Again a small Thibetan trader called Pu-La, who has since returned to the Chumbi Valley, told Phu-Hle-Se, my Thibetan assistant, that the Khi-Bu Kusho, the Thibetan official at Yatung, in succession to the late Tar-Gye Sardar, had given orders that nobody would be allowed to pass from Yatung to British territory after the 27th of the 8th (Thibetan) month, *i.e.*, about the 17th October. The account of Pu-La and of Phup Ta Shi, though independent of each other, agrees closely as to the date of closure, as well as in other respects. Again, one Dor-ji Rhin-Chhen told Babu Tse-Ring Phun-Tsho, the Confidential Agent here, some days ago, that the route was closed to trade, and from the statement of Dorje Rin-Chhen and of others, it appears that the traders of the Chumbi Valley, and of Rin-Chhengong in particular, applied to be allowed to send their wool into Kalimpong, and were told that it would not be allowed on any account.



Since then they have petitioned again, but the orders on this second petition have not yet been received. The above facts constitute direct proof of the stoppage of the trade by the Thibetan authorities.

3. And the circumstantial proof is equally strong. In other years from 1,000 to 2,000 maunds of wool, the staple import from Thibet, are received in Kalimpong during October. This last October about 500 maunds only have been received, and nearly all of this from Gnathong, which is in Sikkin. In this connection it should be explained that wool which crosses the Jelap Pass during the rains, some 1,500 to 2,000 maunds on the average, is kept at Gnathong until the rains are over, as if brought down to Kalimpong it deteriorates very seriously in value. As all of us at Kalimpong know by our own experience there is usually a constant stream of mules laden with wool coming into Kalimpong by this time; at present there is hardly any, and none from the Chumbi Valley. Similarly one knows by now the traders' camping-ground and the lands round the Bazaar are dotted with the mules, several of them being from the Chumbi Valley, yet at present there are none. And what has happened to the wool trade has similarly happened to the other smaller trades. I have asked Captain Parr, the Chinese Commissioner of Customs at Yatung, to supply me with the wool export figures, as regularly kept by him, for the month of October and for each day of October. On receipt of these I will forward them to you, but am not delaying my report on this account, as even if Captain Parr is at Yaetung now, and sends them promptly, they may be several days in coming. Finally it is a matter of common knowledge throughout the Kalimpong Bazaar that the trade has been stopped.

4. The reasons generally given for the prohibition of the trade are first, to prevent our Transport Department getting the benefit of the Thibetan mules, secondly, to retaliate for the presence of the Commission at Khamba Jong. The Thibetans have an exaggerated idea of the value of their country, and as regards the wool trade this characteristic shows itself in their belief that their wool constitutes the chief portion of the world's wool supply, and that if we do not get their wool, the wool trade of Britain will be put to enormous loss. Thibetan officials hardly ever leave their country and hold these exaggerated beliefs in their fulness.

5. I will note only one point in conclusion, namely, that from all I hear, the owners of mules in the Chumbi Valley would be very glad to have their mules seized by our Government, and used for transport purposes, as they know that we pay well in these matters. At present they are losing the carrying trade on which their livelihood depends, and their mules are liable to seizure at any moment by the Thibetan authorities. In either of these cases they will be put to serious loss, if not ruined. At the same time they dare not bring the mules over to us themselves, as their houses would be looted and burned, and every possible punishment inflicted. As a rough guess I should say there were some 300 mules in the Chumbi Valley.

6. I annex the statements of persons questioned by me in connection with this report, as directed by you.

#### *Statement of Persons questioned.*

1. Babu Tse-Ring Phun-Tsho, Confidential Agent at Kalimpong, says that as reported to the Deputy Commissioner in his diary of the 26th October, 1903, he found from men living on this side of the frontier, either Sikgim or Kalimpong men, that the Thibetan authorities will not allow traders to come into British territory. Among others one Dor-Je-Rinchhen of Pedong or Sakyong, Kalimpong Government estates, told him this. He cannot remember anybody else who told him. There are now no Thibetan traders in Kalimpong, and no wool direct from Chumbi Valley; in other years there would be several such traders and a lot of such wool by this time. The traders of Rin-Chhengong, Chumbi Valley, have petitioned the Thibetan Government for permission to come. The Thibetan Government is apparently doing this partly so that the mules may not be available for our transport, and partly to retaliate for British officers going into Thibetan territory by force. No wool has come from the Chumbi Valley since the season began. Dor-Je-Rinchhen calculated the amount at Gnathong at 1,200 maunds; part of this has come down.

2. J. N. Korb, Esq., wool merchant of Kalimpong, says that this year about 400 maunds only have come down to the end of October. There are no Chumbi Valley men in Kalimpong now; ordinarily there would be a good many by this time, mulemen and other servants of the regular traders, who mostly come down to Kalimpong in



November. There is a report throughout the Bazaar that the Thibetan traders are not allowed to come down. He hears that the traders at Rin-Chhengong petitioned to be allowed to send their wool down, and were told that it would not be allowed on any account, and that since then they have petitioned again.

3. Pha-Hle-Se Ku-yho, my Thibetan assistant, saw the servant of a Chinese trader, named Shar-Hlo (*alias* Se Kusho). The servant whose name is Pu-La, and does trading on his own account, is a Thibetan of the Chumbi Valley. Pu-La told Pha-Hle-Se that the Kyi-Pu Ku-Sho, the official at Yatung in succession to Tar-Gye Sardar, had given orders that no body would be allowed to pass through Yatung for British territory after the 27th of the 8th month (about the 10th October). Everybody in Kalimpong says that the trade is stopped from Thibet. The original order itself is never shown much in such cases, but kept locked in a box in the Dzong.

4. Ugyen Kazi's Sister, of Kalimpong, says that there is no doubt that the trade has been stopped.

5. Phup Tra Shi, Thibetan, says that he has come here by the pass viâ Kheri, arriving in Kalimpong eight days ago. He came by the Kheri Pass, as the Yatung trade route is stopped; several mulemen had been stopped at the Yatung Gate by the Thibetan officer there, and turned back to Rin-Chhengong, and they told him this. The Kheri Pass is a difficult one, and the track leading over it is a very small one. The Yatung Gate was stopped about twenty days ago.

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Inclosure 11 in No. 39.

*Government of India to Mr. Yu.*

*Viceroy's Camp, November 8, 1903.*

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch, dated the 17th October, in which you state that you have nominated Colonel Chao to negotiate with my Commissioners in place of Mr. Ho, and that you have asked the Dalai Lama to send a Councillor of State to accompany your Excellency to Khamba Jong, but that time is required to settle the matter. Your Excellency further informs me that the Thibetan passes are guarded by soldiers, and you request me on that account to instruct my Commissioners not to move their present camp.

In my letter dated the 25th August, I had asked you, in consideration of the importance of the present negotiations and of the high rank of the Commissioner whom I had on my part deputed to Khamba Jong, to nominate an official of higher position than Mr. Ho. I understand, however, from Colonel Younghusband that Colonel Chao, whom your Excellency now nominates, is not of higher, but of lower, position than Mr. Ho. You do, indeed, state in your letter that you will yourself accompany the Thibetan Councillor to Khamba Jong when he is appointed, yet as your departure from Lhasa appears to be dependent on the nomination of a Councillor by the Dalai Lhama, and as the Dalai Lhama was four months ago asked to send an officer of the highest rank and has so far failed to do so, I see no prospect of your Excellency arriving at Khamba Jong with suitable Thibetan representatives within any reasonable time.

It is necessary for me to remind your Excellency clearly of the position at which we have arrived. The Thibetans have repudiated and broken the Convention made on their behalf by one of your predecessors at the conclusion of a campaign necessitated by their unprovoked aggression on a British Feudatory State. They have frustrated their agreement to establish a free mart for trade at Yatung. They have destroyed the boundary pillars erected on spots selected by joint Chinese and British Commissioners. They have occupied land inside the boundary so defined. Though the Dalai Lhama intimated through the Chinese Government that he consented to the dispatch of suitable Commissioners to discuss the question of the boundary and of trade with the British representatives and to negotiate a revised Treaty, and that he agreed to Khamba Jong as the place of meeting, yet the delegates whom he selected were of inferior rank, and, since their arrival at Khamba Jong, have refused to negotiate at all. They have even declined to receive communications of any sort from my Commissioner, or to report to their Government the substance of a speech made to them by Colonel Younghusband in the presence of Mr. Ho. Further, two British subjects have been seized and beaten by the Thibetan authorities, and, in spite of repeated representations by my Commis-



sioners, these men have never been restored to liberty, nor has any information as to their present place of detention or condition being given. Lastly, while negotiations for the regulation of trade are under discussion, the Thibetan Government have prohibited all trade with India, and have assumed an attitude of open hostility.

In these circumstances, as the Thibetan Government has behaved in the manner described, and as your Excellency has failed either to persuade them to adopt a more reasonable attitude or to come to meet my Commissioners yourself, I have no alternative but to transfer the place of negotiations to some more suitable spot, of which I will apprise you later, and where it is my hope that they may be resumed. And, as your Excellency states that the Thibetan passes are guarded by soldiers, I have been compelled to take measures to ensure the safety of my Commissioners in moving from Khamba Jong, and to prevent any possible interruption of communication with them.

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Inclosure 12 in No. 39.

*Colonel Younghusband to Government of India.*

(Confidential.)

*Khamba Jong, November 4, 1903.*

WITH reference to my letter dated the 28th October last, and previous correspondence, I have the honour to submit the diary of Mr. Wilton for the period 27th October to the 2nd instant.

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Inclosure 13 in No. 39.

*Diary of Mr. Wilton.*

October 27 to November 2, 1903.

October 27, 1903.—Maximum temperature, 53·7 degrees; minimum temperature, 10·8 degrees. Clear, windy.

The number of men in the Jhong has been increased and is now reported at from 300 to 400 men.

October 28.—Maximum temperature, 52·2 degrees; minimum temperature, 19·7 degrees. Clear, windy.

A letter was received by the Chinese Colonel Chao from the Amban, stating that Mr. Parr had been instructed to remain at Ghamba Jhong and confer with the British Commissioners.

October 29.—Maximum temperature, 53·1 degrees; minimum temperature, 15 degrees. Snow.

Mr. Hayden returned from a seven days' journey west of Ghamba Jhong. He reports that the Jhongpen of Ghamba Jhong, accompanied by two other Thibetan officials, rode out to intercept him at a village, Mugu, about 27 miles from Ghamba Jhong. As the villagers and the Jhongpen's attendants refused to allow his transport yaks to proceed, Mr. Hayden returned to Ghamba Jhong. One of the Thibetan officials informed Mr. Hayden that there would have been no difficulty had he obtained permission to travel from the Chinese and Thibetan officials at Ghamba Jhong, and that such permission would have been readily granted. Needless to say, the Thibetan official on his return denied his previous assertion.

Mr. Hayden reports that the villagers were by no means hostile, and even occasionally friendly towards him.

There are rumours to-day among the Thibetans that the Nepalese are collecting men and rations at Wullung in Nepal.

October 30.—Maximum temperature, 54 degrees; minimum temperature, 20·8 degrees. Snow.

Reports, confirmed by inquiry among the Chinese, state that orders have been received from Lhasa that the British camp is to remain unmolested, but that if a move in Thibet be made, the Thibetan forces at Ghamba Jhong and in the neighbourhood are to attack the British.

Further rumours are to hand of the presence of a large force of horsemen at Rhe Jhong.

A few soldiers are stationed in the villages around Ghamba Jhong.



October 31.—Maximum temperature, 41·7 degrees; minimum temperature, 16 degrees. Windy.

It is reported that the movements of the camp are being very closely watched, and that spies are being sent down viâ Tangu and Gangtok to observe what is going on lower down.

November 1.—Maximum temperature, 52·7 degrees; minimum temperature, 11·2 degrees. Clear.

The presence of Chinese and Thibetan spies at Giaogong is reported, and a convoy which arrived to-day was accompanied by Thibetan spies.

November 2.—Maximum temperature, 55·1 degrees; minimum temperature, 11·5 degrees. Clear.

There is a rumour in the Thibetan village that British troops have occupied Lingtu near Gnathong.

Inquiries among the Chinese and Thibetans show that there appears to be no serious intention at Lhasa on the part of either the Chinese Amban or any Thibetan high official to put in an appearance at the Ghamba Jhong.

(Signed)

E. C. WILTON.

Inclosure 14 in No. 39.

*Colonel Younghusband to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.)

November 14, 1903.

I HAVE received a letter from Amban, in reply to mine demanding release of Lachung men. Though its form is politer than his recent letters, and he expresses regret at my being delayed at Ghamba Jhong so long, it is entirely evasive, merely stating that the men will be handed over as soon as the Thibetans have given them up; that he will proceed to Ghamba Jhong as soon as the Thibetans have appointed a Councillor; and that he hopes for beneficial results from the arrival of the new Amban.

No. 40.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received December 8.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of Darjeeling Frontier Report, No. 40, for the week ending the 7th November last.

*India Office, December 7, 1903.*

Inclosure in No. 40.

*Deputy Commissioner Garrett to the Governor of Bengal.*

Sir,

*Darjeeling, November 9, 1903.*

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith my Confidential Report for the week ending on Saturday the 7th instant.

I have nothing to report except that not a single load of merchandise has arrived in this district during the week from Thibet. It is also said that not a single person has crossed the frontier from Thibet.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. H. E. GARRETT.



## No. 41.

*The Marquess of Lansdowne to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 204.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Foreign Office, December 11, 1903.*

THIBETAN negotiations. I am informed by Chinese Minister that the Amban has been instructed not to wait for his successor, but to proceed with Thibetan officials of rank to Western Thibet, with the object of reopening the negotiations.

In reply, I have pointed out to Chang Ta-jên, that hitherto the Chinese authorities have not succeeded in bringing the Thibetans to a sense of their responsibilities; that the Thibetan authorities have lately adopted an attitude of increased hostility; and that, meanwhile, we cannot desist from measures already sanctioned by His Majesty's Government.

## No. 42.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received December 14.)*

THE Under Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of two telegrams from the Viceroy, dated the 13th December, and inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary, Calcutta, dated the 26th November, relative to the Thibetan negotiations.

*India Office, December 14, 1903.*

## Inclosure 1 in No. 42.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*December 13, 1903.*

COLONEL YOUNGHUSBAND telegraphs, 11th December, as follows:—

"Difficulties in the matter of transport have been very serious. Force left for foot of pass to-day. To-morrow I join it and cross pass with it. There are no signs of serious opposition. Walsh is here and in two or three days Wilton will join me. Khambajong party were to leave that place to-day."

## Inclosure 2 in No. 42.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*December 13, 1903.*

SEE letter, dated the 27th September, from Nepalese representative at Lhasa, copy of which was forwarded with Secretary's letter of the 26th November, 1903, to the Secretary in Political Department.

Colonel Younghusband in a telegram, dated the 9th December, calling attention to the letter above quoted, says:—

"It will doubtless have been recognized by you that Khendechega is Dorjjeff, who two or three years ago went on a mission to the Czar from the Dalai Lhama. It is safe to rely on the information of the Nepalese representative as to Dorjjeff, since his information in regard to other matters has proved to be so accurate. Our information that the Thibetans are relying on Russian support and that Russian arms have entered Thibet has now been received from several independent sources. It may be assumed as certain from all this that Dorjjeff is at present at Lhasa; that a promise of Russian support has been given by him to the Thibetans; that the Thibetans believe that this promised support will be given to them, and that already they have received Russian arms."

Our Foreign Secret letter of the 5th November, 1903, gives some account of Dorjjeff.



## Inclosure 3 in No. 42.

*Lieutenant-Colonel Ravenshaw to Government of India.**Nepal Residency, November 10, 1903.*

IN continuation of this Office letter, dated the 3rd November, 1903, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, translations of two letters, dated, respectively, the 14th and 15th September, 1903, which have been received by the Prime Minister from the Nepalese Representative at Lhasa, regarding Thibetan affairs.

## Inclosure 4 in No. 42.

*Letter from the Nepal Representative at Lhasa.**(Translation.)*

WITH due respect I beg to inform your Highness that on Saturday, the 27th Bhadra, I called at the Kasyal Office to speak with the Kazis on our Boundary Commission at Raswa, when in accordance with your Highness's favour, dated Tuesday, the 30th Ashar, I cropped up the question about the Khendechhega, and the following conversation took place between the Seokhang Kazi and myself.

*Myself.*—You may remember of my having spoken to you, last year, about the Khendechhega's visit to Russia, and I also produced before you a picture published in a newspaper. You then told me that he had gone away from here with the avowed intention of going to China, and so you knew not if he had, of his own accord, gone over to Russia and falsely represented himself as having been sent by the Potala Lhama. I had your assurance that he was never sent to Russia by you, and was told that he had not returned nor was anything known of his whereabouts, while, at the same time, you promised to let me know of it when you get information of the same. It is now long since the Khendechhega has returned here. Will you please let me know if you have called for an explanation from him, as a Government servant, for his having gone over to Russia without the permission of his Government, and for misusing the name of the Potala Lhama. I did not get from you the promised information about him, although he has been back here so long. I now hope to hear all about him from you.

*The Seokhang Kazi.*—(After sending out the clerks who were present there and with a tinge of shame in his face, said). Yes, you put us that question and your Government also inquired of us about the report of a Mission having been sent from Thibet to Russia. We then replied that, in accordance with our religious tenets, we cannot even keep written communication with any infidels, not to speak of allowing them to enter the country, be they the Russians, or the British, or those of any other nationality, adding that if in doing so anything untoward happened to us, all the temporal monks of Thibet have taken an oath, which is also put down in writing, to fight to the last for the sake of our religion, even though all the males be annihilated and females only remain to take up arms. As the Russians also belonged to this infidel class we have never sent any one to them. We also gave you the names of some of the persons who have gone away to China and Sopustan, after having obtained high honours here. These have obtained high diplomas here, and any false representation made by them as having been sent by the Potala Lhama, may command the confidence of the public. We have not sent away any men ourselves, nor is this a thing which we can do. All this we have told you before and we say the same thing now too. Yes, the Khendechhega has returned and presented himself before the Potala Lhama. As this question had cropped up, we, the Kazis, and the Chikhiap Khembu, have consulted together to call for an explanation from him and do the needful in the matter.

*Myself.*—Many months have elapsed since the Khendechhega's return. It is strange that you have not as yet finished your consultation.

*The Kazi.*—It is not very long that he has come back here. The Potala Lhama was in his cave for divine meditation; besides our whole attention has been engrossed in the dispute with the British, for which, as we told you the other day, we had to look to our military preparations to defend our religious principles, for which



purpose the Sathay Kazi has been appointed the chief officer. The Potala Lhama also is not at present keeping good health. For these reasons we have not been able to move in this matter. Moreover we must have grounds to base our inquiry with the Khendechhega; but of this we may say that we have heard so from the newspapers.

*Myself.*—I suppose you make thorough investigations even on such things as are done in the most secret manner, on which you may have nothing but mere suspicion to guide you. Am I to understand that you feel such a great solicitude to get hold of a man who is under your control to make necessary inquiries which you have not been able to do as yet?

*The Kazi.*—We have not been able to direct our attention to it, only on account of the pressure of other works and the indisposition of the Potala Lhama. We will make necessary inquiries, and if it be found out that he has behaved so improperly and misused the name of the Potala Lhama by going over to Russia, we are agreed to do the needful in the matter. But news published in the newspapers are not always true.

*Myself.*—The fact of the Khendechhega's visit to Russia is proclaimed in all parts of the world. He cannot hide it now, even if he so wishes. Will you take this, my word of warning, that this has not been a good thing? I trust you will work in a way that would be beneficial to your Government even in the long run.

*The Kazi.*—The Khendechhega is a servant of the Government, and so we are confident that he vanish from here altogether. We can have him at any time we want. We have decided to make inquiries of him and do the needful in the matter.

*Myself.*—How does matter stand on the Ghamba Jhóng side at present?

*The Kazi.*—We have already spoken to you on the subject as it stood then. At present the British have constructed a fortification and are staying on there. They had sent spies into Thibet to obtain all informations of what was going on in it. The spies were, however, caught by the Jhong of Digarcha and have been sent up here. The Amba advises us their release, but as they have come here to spy into our internal affairs without any rhyme or reason, we have kept them. As regards the British they have forcibly crossed our frontier and are trying to gain a footing in it. Still adhering to their former words they are determined upon coming into Thibet. Consequently we have asked the Sathay Kazi to arrange to mobilize all our available troops.

*Myself.*—Would it be to the benefit of the Thibet Government to make such a small matter as the capture of a man or two assume a serious form? Anyhow I should think it advisable that the work should go on in a way as to benefit Thibet, and you know how to do it. As I told you the other day, things undone at a time is always very difficult of being mended afterwards. It is not a small matter, and I hope you will move with proper care and caution.

*The Kazi.*—What can we do? These British do not allow us to remain in peace in our own country, and at present we are continually engaged in this business. News has reached us from our frontier on the Nepal side that, at present, the importation of rice from that country into our territory has very much decreased and much difficulty is experienced in supplying rice to the Chinese, which is given to them on account of their pay. The Thibetans can manage to live on corn meals, but it is necessary that the Chinese should be supplied with rice, hence the difficulty. Can you tell us why the importation of rice has been so much affected?

*Myself.*—I heard that owing to deficient rainfall last year the harvest of the paddy crop was not good. It might be due to that.

I then took leave of the Kazis and returned home. Your Highness had instructed me to make a thorough inquiry with the Kazis about the Khendechhega. I would have done that had they altogether denied his return. But they admitted that he has come back and presented himself before the Dalai Lhama, and have also said that they, with the Chikhiap Khembu, have consulted together to make inquiries about him and do the needful, so I spoke to them only as much as is reported above, since I was not quite sure whether it would be prudent on my part to press the Kazis hard into the matter without some hints from your Highness in this direction. If I have been short of intellect in dealing with this matter, I hope for pardon from your merciful Highness,



and to be favoured with instructions for my guidance. Notwithstanding all what the Kazis have said as to their consultation and doing the needful in it, I believe they have simply given me an evasive reply, as the matter is one which is against their religious tenets, and they have given us replies before concealing the real facts. Very probably the Khendechhega has visited Russia with the approval of the Potala Lhama and the Thibetan Government, and it is not at all likely that they will take strong measures against him. I shall, in due course, report to your Highness as to how the Khendechhega will be dealt with. In my letter under a separate cover I am submitting to your Highness some other items of news.

Dated Monday, the 29th Bhadra, Sambat 1960, corresponding with the 14th September, 1903.

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Inclosure 5 in No. 42.

*Letter from the Nepal Representative at Lhasa.*

(Translation.)

WITH due respect I beg to lay before your Highness in the following lines the news that I have heard and been able to gather here for your Highness's information.

A Malausay Clerk says :—

“ With regard to the Sikkimese spies sent by the British to Digarcha on a pretence of making some purchases, and who were caught by the local Jhong and sent on here, the British, by way of retaliation, captured 200 yaks belonging to the Thibetans in the neighbourhood of Ghamba Jhong. The Dhaibun and the Fapoon of the Boundary Commission remonstrated, and demanded the return of the yaks to their owners. The British, however, would not return them, so long as their men who, they say, were sent by them to make some purchases and were, without any rhyme or reason, captured by the Thibetans, were brought back to them, together with 2,000 rupees (British Indian coin) for each of the men so captured, as a retribution. The Dhaibun said that these men were quite safe, and would be returned as soon as the British would settle the boundary dispute. Still the British do not talk of returning the yaks, but all what they say is that the Sikkim boundary extends as far as Ghamba Jhong. I hear that a despatch to the above effect has been received by the Amba from Fapoon Hotarin, who, it is said, has also sent an intimation that he was starting for Lhasa on Bhadra Sudi 13th.”

The Phokhang Dheba says :—

“ The three British Sikkimese spies caught at the Digarcha Jhong and brought up here under custody are at present kept imprisoned at a place called Seol, below the Potala. When examined by the Thibetans, they made a statement that as British subjects they could not but obey the orders of the British, who sent them to collect information regarding the state of affairs in this country. They also stated that altogether nine spies like themselves were sent by the British, but it was probable that all the others have gone back. An order has been received from the Kasyal Office to give them good food and drink and keep them in confinement.”

The Mepon and a brother of Sathav Kazi were telling me that the Chharong Dhaibun, one of the Thibetan Commissioners on the Boundary Commission, has been so very seriously ill of rheumatism and bowel complaints that he had to be removed to Chharong (a land of his Zagir), which lies three days' journey this side of Ghamba Jhong, and that there was very little hope for his recovery.

A servant of the Chharong Dhaibun, who had lately been to Ghamba Jhong to take provisions for his master, says that in the British camp, which is composed of tents and huts, a wall of a man's height has been constructed all round with turfs, and above that bags of sand have been laid with loopholes for rifles; that round about the wall and outside it is a wire fencing and outside it again an intrenchment filled with water; that the British were seen to move up and down there; and that he also saw about 1,000 Thibetan sepoys stationed at Rhe Jhong, this being a station close to Ghamba Jhong.

The ex-Mepon says that by an order issued by the Amba, the Chinese military stores are also being put in order.

Further information received from the Phokhang Dheba is to the effect that the



Potala Lhama has entered his cave for divine meditation, and although it is said that no outsiders can go in, there is no such restriction for the Khendechhega, whose men and things that were said to have been coming behind have not turned up as yet.

Dated Tuesday, the 30th Bhadra, Sambat 1960, corresponding with the 15th September, 1903.

Inclosure 6 in No. 42.

*Colonel Younghusband to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.)

November 16, 1903.

REPORT from Harak Jang stating that foot-and-mouth disease has broken out among yaks. Only partial reliance, therefore, can be placed upon them of transport, and as Nepalese troops are not being employed for occupying Ghamba Jhong when Mission move on to Gyantse, Macdonald thinks that there would be risk in Mission marching across to Kala Tso, and, from military point of view, thinks it would be safer to withdraw Mission and escort to Sikkim directly force has occupied Chumbi valley. The only alternative, he says, would be for Chumbi valley force to move to within one march of Ghamba Jhong and take on Mission from this. This would greatly delay advance on Gyantse and make it much more difficult. In the circumstances, I would recommend that I should proceed from here to Gyantse via Chumbi valley, and that Mission staff should join me in Chumbi valley, instead of moving across to Kala Tso as originally proposed. This would involve less military risk, and the political ill-effect of a withdrawal of Mission to Sikkim would be lessened if delayed till actual occupation of Chumbi valley. Addressed Viceroy's camp; repeated Simla.

Inclosure 7 in No. 42.

*Colonel Younghusband to Government of Bengal.*

(Telegraphic.)

November 21, 1903.

A TELEGRAM of great length from Peking Government to Amban has been received here to-day, thus proving that when Chinese Government wish to communicate quickly they know the best way. The telegram will reach Lhasa in a week from Peking.

Inclosure 8 in No. 42.

*Colonel Younghusband to Government of India.*

(Confidential.)

*Khamba Jong, November 18, 1903.*

WITH reference to my letter, dated the 11th November, 1903, and previous correspondence, I have the honour to submit the diary of Mr. Wilton for the period 10th to the 16th November, 1903.

Inclosure 9 in No. 42.

*Diary of Events at Ghamba Jhong, November 10 to 16, 1903.*

November 10, 1903.—Maximum temperature, 52·5 degrees; minimum temperature, 6 degrees. Clear, windy.

Colonel Chao, the new Shigatse delegate and the ex-Jhongpen of the Ghamba district, called at the camp to-day. Captain Bethune and I received them. The Tung ji Chenpo, the principal Lhasa Delegate, had previously expressed his intention to call, but sent no excuses for his absence. I pointed out to Colonel Chao the lack of manners displayed by the Tung ji Chenpo, whereupon the ex-Jhongpen explained that the Tung ji Chenpo had strained his leg and was unable to ride to the camp, although he would have descended to a tent below the Jhong had his invitation to call on him



been accepted. I asked both the Chinese and Thibetans to convey to the Tung ji Chenpo that this was not the first time he had thus convicted himself of breach of official etiquette, and that I considered his excuse impertinent.

Colonel Chao apologetically explained that he himself did not wish to open any discussion, and only did so in deference to pressure from the Thibetans. The Thibetans asked, he said—

1. That the British troops at Lingtu, near Gnathong, should be recalled so as to avoid bad feeling.

2. That no opposition be made to the re-establishment of a Chinese-Thibetan post at Giaogong.

The first request was so ludicrous that it was dismissed without discussion.

In regard to the second request, Captain Bethune and I agreed that the post could not be permitted, and warned Chinese and Thibetans that any attempt to re-establish the post would be at their own risk.

A noteworthy incident, as illustrating the present relations between the Chinese and Thibetans, was that Colonel Chao, after some private conversation, told me that he would not send Chinese guards to Giaogong, or to any point on the British side of the watershed. This was repeated to the Thibetans, who remonstrated forcibly with the Colonel, pointing out that he had promised them that very day that he would send guards jointly with the Thibetans to Giaogong, and reminded him that he was staying in Thibet at Thibetan expense. The Colonel, who is an amiable but weak man, after much shuffling and evasion, was induced to admit that he would send Chinese guards to the Serpubu Pass, which is in Thibetan territory, much to the discontent of the Thibetans, who all but openly sneered at the representative of the Suzerain Power.

The ex-Jhongpen said that the Tung ji Chenpo had ordered him to say that the latter wished to discuss the above points at length with us, and invited us to meet him in a tent to be pitched in the plain outside the camp. I told the ex-Jhongpen to tell his superior officer, the Tung ji Chenpo, that his request was quite unreasonable, and that if he wanted to discuss business he could call at the camp.

The visitors left apparently disappointed with the results of their interview.

November 11.—Maximum temperature, 48·2 degrees; minimum temperature, 4·7 degrees. Clear, windy.

A Thibetan, brother of a camp follower, was sent to Shigatse to report on the camps of soldiers said to be stationed about midway between Ghamba Jhong and Shigatse. Our present information from Chinese and Thibetan sources indicates the presence of about 3,000 men in that district.

It is also stated that 500 men from Gyantse will reinforce the above shortly.

The Thibetan messengers sent by their officials from Ghamba Jhong to Shigatse are picked men, and even Thibetan villagers have been forbidden to travel for more than a few miles in that direction.

(Signed) E. C. WILTON.

Inclosure 10 in No. 42.

*Lieutenant-Colonel Ravenshaw to Government of India.*

*Nepal Residency, November 20, 1903.*

In continuation of my letter dated the 10th November, 1903, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, a translation of a letter, dated the 27th September, 1903, received by the Prime Minister from the Nepalese Representative at Lhasa, regarding Thibetan affairs.

Inclosure 11 in No. 42.

*Letter from the Nepal Representative at Lhasa.*

(Translation.)

With due respect I beg to lay before your Highness in the following lines the news that I have heard and been able to gather here for your Highness's information.

A clerk of the Yamun says:—

“A despatch was received by the Amba from the Bara Lath Saheb of India, stating that though the British Government had deputed high officials on the Boundary



Commission with Thibet, the deputation by the Thibetan Government of officers of inferior rank on it has caused the pending questions to remain unsettled so far, and requesting the presence of the Amba himself, or failing him, that of his assistant, the new Amba, who was coming to Lhassa, and one of the Kazies to settle the questions, inasmuch as the present Thibetan Commissioners remained cooped up in their own house with bolted doors. The Lath Saheb has also asked the Amba to appoint and arrange for a warm, good place in Thibet to hold conferences to discuss frontier matters, as cold is very severe at Ghamba. On receipt of this communication the Amba sent a message to the Thibetan Government, informing them that immediately on receipt of a reply to the reference which he has made to His Majesty the Emperor of China, he would at once proceed to Ghamba, so that one of the Kazies, who would go to join the Commission, should be in readiness to start, and also asking for the release of the British subjects whom they have caught and imprisoned. To this the reply of the Kazies was to the effect that since the British have forcibly entered the Thibetan territory and were staying at Ghamba against the will of the Thibetan Government, nothing short of the retirement of the British from Ghamba to the Gnathong frontier would induce them (the Kazies) to go to discuss the pending questions; adding that if the British refuse to retire and adopt forcible measures, no good would result by their going there, nor would the British spies be released. A Chhongdui Council was also held to consider the matter, in which the councillors did not entertain the idea of sending a Kazi for the purpose mentioned, but advocated the course of having recourse to evasions till the winter sets in, when they hoped that the rigours of climate would compel the British to retire. Thong Lin, the Chinese Boundary Commissioner, has also sent an intimation to the Amba of the British having extended their telegraph line as far as Ghamba. The new Amba is reported to have arrived at Sithan on his way down here.

Fapoon Hatarin, the Chinese Boundary Commissioner, deputed by the Amba, who was accused by the Thibetans of having sided with the British in all his dealings, had tendered his resignation in disgust on the ground of ill-health. The Amba accepted his resignation and another officer, namely, Thong Lin of Domo, was appointed in his place. The Fapoon, on being relieved, wanted to come back to Lhassa, but the Thibetans refused to supply him with horses and transport animals required for his journey, saying that he has simply been uselessly travelling to and from without doing any good to the country, but causing only troubles to the people on the way. Consequently he is still at Ghamba unable to leave that place. The Amba brought this matter to the notice of the Kasyal office, which, however, is not taking any prompt steps on it."

The Phokhang Dheba says :—

"No explanation has so far been called for from the Khendechhega, who has been to Russia. He is at Norpulinka and is in attendance on the Potala Lhama."

The said Phokhang Dheba and the Interpreter, attached to the Teep Arsenal, say :—

"With regard to the things that were said to be coming behind the Khendechhega, we hear that there are 60 camel loads of them, which are reported to include 1,000 Russian rifles.

A clerk of Nechang, who corroborates the above statement, says :—

"I heard from a Thibetan, who has recently come here from Gnendong, a village lying at a distance of five days' journey north of Lhassa, that the cases containing those rifles have arrived at the said village, where there is a bifurcation of road, the one leading to Digarcha and the other to Lhassa, and that some were saying that these would be taken direct to Digarcha, while others were speaking of their being brought down here."

On receipt of this news I immediately despatched a Nepalese half-caste to the said village to verify the statement. When he returns I shall duly make a further report to your Highness on the subject.

The said clerk of Nechang says :—

"I hear of a report that the Khendechhega has made a statement that he has full assurance of Russia of her sending 10,000 Russian troops with necessary arms and



ammunition, and also all arrangements for provisions complete, to the assistance of Thibet, should anything untoward happen to her."

Khani, a Thibetan, says :—

"A friend of mine, who is a household servant at Norpulinka, was telling me that twenty-four cases of articles brought by the Khendechhega have been taken to the Potala Lhama at Norpulinka, and that he saw with his own eyes five Russian rifles, while there were ten long cases which looked like those containing rifles, the rest being square in shape containing perhaps other articles, all of these having been so far kept unopened."

The said Phokhang Dheba says :—

"Some Thibetan officers were heard to talk among themselves, expressing their displeasure at the highhandedness of the British over Thibet, and accusing Mr. White to be at the bottom of all this. They say that if the British do not retire from Ghamba, which lies in the Thibetan territory, it would serve them right if the Thibetan Government, at all risk, were to fall upon them suddenly at night during the winter."

The said Khani says :—

"Nowadays the Chikhiap Khembu and the four Kazies hold secret conferences daily at Norpulinka. The Thibetan sepoys, who have assembled here, are said to be engaged, some in preparing gunpowder, some in putting the old arms in order, and some in preparing bullets and put-fires."

The Theen of Digarcha says :—

"Below Ghamba and above Tenkay Jhong there is a God (oracle?) known as Langbuchhenga. Last time before the war broke out with the British this God was consulted by the Thibetan Government, when he spoke out that there would be a war, though the British would not be able to come into Thibet for some years to come. Now this has actually transpired. This time, too, the same God has been consulted by the Thibetan Government, when they were told that the advantage of Thibet lay in allowing the British free intercourse into that country and in opening it to trade, predicting, at the same time, hard times for Thibet if this be not done."

"Great excitement prevails on the Digarcha side at the anticipation of the British coming in over them."

The said clerk of Nechang says :—

"The Khendechhega wished to treat the monks of the three Ghambas with tea, and so yesterday at the Laprang office he was busy making an estimate of the expenditure that would be required for the purpose. If the Potala Lhama be out of his cave, the Khendechhega is reported to be inclined to perform this year, too, a chhopay ceremony, in which presents would be profusely given to the Potala Lhama down to all the Government officials, and all the monks; but this has not yet been definitely settled."

The Pujari monk says :—

"The Thibetan monks suspect that the money which the Khendechhega has been distributing to them was not his, but that of Russia, and this they say is not good."

The said Theen says :—

"A monk, who had been to Ghamba, was telling me that, although the Thibetan Government have been menacing the British with their military preparations, and even by sending their troops towards Ghamba, the British, who were at that place, were going on with their own preparations without caring a straw for them."

Barja Guvaju writes to me from Digarcha, under date Friday the 4th Aswin Badi, as follows :—

"Two hundred Thibetan sepoys of Gyanchi and 300 of Lhachi village started on Tuesday the 2nd Aswin Badi, to reinforce the garrison at Ghamba Jhong."



"On Tuesday the 2nd Aswin Badi, a census was taken of all the Thibetans at Digarcha, below 60 and above 15 years of age.

"Kesang, the half-caste, left Digarcha for Ghamba Jhong on Wednesday the 3rd Aswin Badi, to collect information of that side. As soon as he returns I shall report to you all the reliable information that can be had. I am collecting informations to the best of my ability, having at the bottom of my heart the prosperity of you, my master, and without in any way straining the relations between the two Governments."

I beg to submit herewith, for your Highness's perusal, a letter in original, written in Persian character, which I have received from the Mahommedans whom I have sent towards the north (Sopasthan) to gather information of that side.

Dated Sunday the 11th Aswin, Sambat 1960, corresponding with the 27th September, 1903.

No. 43.

*Viceroy of India to Mr. Brodrick.—(Communicated by India Office, December 14.)*

(Secret.)

(Telegraphic.)

*Calcutta, December 13, 1903.*

FOLLOWING from Younghusband, dated 11th December:—

"Force left to-day for foot of pass. I join it and cross pass with it to-morrow. No signs of serious opposition. Khambajong party were to leave Khambajong to-day. Walsh is here, and Wilton will be with me in two or three days. Transport difficulties have been very serious."

No. 44.

*Viceroy of India to Mr. Brodrick.—(Communicated by India Office, December 14.)*

(Secret.)

(Telegraphic.)

*Calcutta, December 13, 1903.*

FOLLOWING from Younghusband, dated 9th December:—

"Please refer to letter dated 27th September, from Nepalese Representative, Lhasa. You will doubtless have recognized that Khendechega is Dorjief, who went on a Mission from Dalai Lama to the Czar two or three years ago. Nepalese Representative's information on other matters has proved so accurate that his information regarding Dorjief may safely be relied on. We have heard now from several independent sources that Russian arms have entered Thibet, and that Thibetans are relying on Russian support. From all this, we may assume as certain: (1) that Dorjief is now in Lhasa; (2) that he has promised Thibetans Russian support; (3) that Thibetans believe Russian support will be given them; (4) that Russian arms have already been given.

Copy of Nepal letter referred to was sent to Political Department, with Secretary's letter No. 48 m, dated 26th November, 1903. For account of Dorjief, please see Inclosure No. 173, Foreign Secret despatch No. 183, External, of the 5th November.

No. 45.

*Viceroy of India to Mr. Brodrick.—(Communicated by India Office, December 16.)*

(Secret.)

(Telegraphic.)

*Calcutta, December 15, 1903.*

THIBET. Mission, with escort, crossed Jelap La, and arrived at Kinchingong on 13th December without opposition. Gate at Yatung was left open, and although Chinese and Thibetan officials requested Commissioner not to pass through they subsequently gave him dinner, and meeting was friendly.

(Repeated to Satow, Peking.)



No. 46.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received December 16.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 15th December, regarding the Thibet Mission.

*India Office, December 16, 1903.*

Inclosure in No. 46.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*December 15, 1903.*

COLONEL YOUNGHUSBAND'S Mission reached Rinchingong on the 13th December, with escort, having crossed the Jelap La. No opposition was encountered. At Yatung the gate was left open; the meeting of the British Commission with the Thibetan and Chinese officials was friendly, although they requested him not to pass through the gate. They gave Colonel Younghusband dinner subsequently.

(Repeated to His Majesty's Minister at Peking.)

No. 47.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received December 21.)*

(No. 358.)

My Lord,

*Peking, October 23, 1903.*

WITH reference to my telegram to your Lordship, No. 238 of the 19th instant, respecting the rank of the Chinese Representative associated with Colonel Young-husband in the Thibetan negotiations, and the choice of a winter residence by the Mission, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of the note, to which reference was made therein.

I am communicating a copy to the Viceroy of India.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) ERNEST SATOW.

Inclosure in No. 47.

*Prince Ching to Sir E. Satow.**Kuang Hsü, 29th year, 8th moon, 18th day.**(October 18, 1903.)*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to inform you that this Board has just received from Yü-ta-ch'en, Resident in Thibet, a telegram to the effect that a despatch has reached him from the Viceroy of India, stating that the rank of Prefect Ho does not correspond with that of Colonel Younghusband and Mr. White, and also asking that another Kablon (Thibetan Councillor) may be sent to the frontier so as to enable negotiations to be opened. The despatch further states that Colonel Younghusband and Mr. White purpose choosing another Thibetan place in which to pass the winter. The Resident has already recalled Prefect Ho, and has sent in his stead Major Chao Yü, of the Ching Hsi\* (regiment or battalion), and is retaining Mr. Parr, Commissioner of Customs, as joint Commissioner. But as regards the British officials passing the winter in another place, the Thibetans are not willing that the British officials should cross the frontier, and the Resident has already written to Mr. Parr to consult with a view to stopping them (*i.e.*, persuade them to stop), and he begs the Board to write to your Excellency in this sense.

\* Ching Hsi means literally, "pacifying the West."



The Board have the honour to observe that Yü-ta-ch'en, the new Resident in Thibet, is now starting from Szechuen, and has received Imperial orders to expedite his journey, but the road is very long, and it will take him some time yet to reach his post. As Yü-ta-ch'en has substituted Major Chao Yü, of the Ching Hsi (regiment), as joint Commissioner with the Commissioner of Customs, Mr. Parr, they will no doubt be able to negotiate in a friendly spirit. The Board would therefore request your Excellency to telegraph to the Viceroy of India to instruct Colonel Younghusband and Mr. White on no account to cross the frontier, in order to avoid misunderstandings on the part of the Thibetans, and as a further proof of friendship.

I avail myself, &c.  
(Signed) CHING.

## No. 48.

*Viceroy of India to Mr. Brodrick.—(Communicated by India Office, December 21.)*

(Secret.)

(Telegraphic.)

*Calcutta, December 20, 1903.*

THIBET: Your telegram of the 30th November. Concluding paragraph.

Younghusband will submit draft Convention after occupation of Chumbi Valley is completed.

## No. 49.

*Viceroy of India to Mr. Brodrick.—(Communicated by India Office, December 21.)*

(Secret.)

(Telegraphic.)

*Calcutta, December 20, 1903.*

FOLLOWING from Younghusband:—

"Chumbi, 17th December. Information received from two good and independent sources that National Assembly has imprisoned member of Dalai Lama's Council, probably by order of Dalai Lama himself. Reason for this action is said to be that Councillor had no right to report situation was serious. War party is now in ascendant, and resistance may be expected at Phari. Macdonald reached there about 20th, and, after establishing posts there, will return here. I remain here till preparations for final advance to Gyantse from Kalatso are completed, which may not be for six weeks yet. New Amban not likely to reach Gyantse before middle of February."

(Repeated Peking.)

## No. 50.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received December 21.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of two telegrams from the Viceroy, dated the 20th instant, relative to the Thibetan negotiations.

*India Office, December 21, 1903.*

Inclosure 1 in No. 50.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*December 20, 1903.*

PLEASE refer to last paragraph of your telegram of the 30th ultimo, Thibet.

A draft Convention will be submitted by Colonel Younghusband after the Chumbi Valley has been completely occupied.



## Inclosure 2 in No. 50.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

December 20, 1903.

THIBET. The following telegram, dated Chumbi, 17th December, has been received from Colonel Younghusband:—

“Two good and independent sources have furnished me with information to the effect that a member of the Dalai Lama’s Council has been imprisoned by the National Assembly, acting probably under orders from the Dalai Lama himself, on the ground, it is alleged, that the Councillor had no right to report that the situation was serious. Resistance may be expected at Phari as the war party is now in the ascendant. Colonel MacDonald, who arrived at Phari about the 20th instant, intends, after posts have been established there, to return to Chumbi. I purpose remaining here pending the completion of our preparations for the final advance from Kalatso to Gyantse. It may be six weeks before this takes place. It will probably be the middle of February before the new Amban arrives at Gyantse.”

(Repeated to British Minister, Peking.)

## No. 51.

*Chang Ta-jên to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received December 23.)*

My Lord Marquess,

*Chinese Legation, London, December 22, 1903.*

I AM desired by the Wai-wu Pu to acquaint your Lordship that a telegram has been received from the Chinese Resident at Lhassa, stating that the two natives of Sikkim who were reported to have been put to death by the Thibetans are alive and well, but still under detention at a place named Shaung Shang, and that instructions have been given for their immediate liberation.

A Thibetan official of the name of Ko-Pa-lung has been nominated by the Amban to act as Thibetan Commissioner; and as soon as his appointment shall have been sanctioned by the Ta-lai Lama, the Amban in person, accompanied by him, will lose no time in proceeding to Ya-tung, there to meet, and negotiate with, the British Commissioner, a settlement of all pending issues.

Under these circumstances, the Wai-wu Pu hope that it will not be considered necessary for the British forces to proceed further into Thibet.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) T. J. CHANG.

## No. 52.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received December 23.)*

(No. 276.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, December 23, 1903.*

THIBET. His Majesty’s Consul-General at Chengtu telegraphs as follows, the 22nd December:—

“It is stated in unofficial Thibetan correspondence, worthy of credibility, and dated from the capital of Thibet, two months ago, that a Russian military officer named Chasshiko is there with several men, engaged in manufacturing munitions of war for the Thibetans.

“The Kalon named Shia-cha is in league with them.”



No. 53.

*Viceroy of India to Mr. Brodrick.—(Communicated by India Office, December 24.)*

(Secret.)

(Telegraphic.)

*Calcutta, December 23, 1903.*

FOLLOWING from Younghusband :—

“Chumbi, 18th December.

“Phari-jong-pen called on me to-day. He says there are few troops at Phari. I warned him against offering any resistance to our advance, as we were quite capable of overcoming any opposition. I also said we would expect him to furnish supplies. He said that no resistance would be offered, and supplies would be furnished. Macdonald was willingly supplied with as much grass as he wanted at Lengmathong to-day, and the people along the valley are bringing in supplies within their capacity. Sixty mules were also brought for sale to-day.”

(Repeated Peking.)

No. 54.

*Viceroy of India to Mr. Brodrick.—(Communicated by India Office, December 24.)*(Telegraphic.) *En clair.**December 24, 1903.*

FOLLOWING telegram, dated 22nd December, from Younghusband :—

“Macdonald has reached Phari without opposition, and has reconnoitred up to the Tangla Pass and found it unoccupied. During the week we have been in Chumbi the inhabitants have sold us 800 maunds of grass, 56 maunds turnips, 5 maunds potatoes, 7 maunds buckwheat, and 100 mules. Walsh and Bretherton have, in addition, arranged for 400 mules to ply on contract system between here and Rowatang on the Rungpo.”

(Repeated Peking.)

No. 55.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received December 25.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 24th instant, relative to the Thibetan negotiations.

*India Office, December 24, 1903.*

Inclosure in No. 55.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*(Telegraphic.) *En clair.**December 24, 1903.*

FOLLOWING telegram dated the 22nd instant from Younghusband :—

“Macdonald has reached Phari without opposition, and has reconnoitred up to the Tangla Pass and found it unoccupied. During the week we have been in Chumbi the inhabitants have sold us 800 maunds grass, 56 maunds turnips, 5 maunds potatoes, 7 maunds buckwheat, and 100 mules. Walsh and Bretherton have in addition arranged for 400 mules to ply on contract system between here and Rowatang on the Rungpo.”

(Repeated to Peking.)



## No. 56.

*Viceroy of India to Mr. Brodrick.—(Communicated by India Office, December 26.)*

(Secret.)

(Telegraphic.)

*Calcutta, December 25, 1903.*

FOLLOWING telegram has been received from General Macdonald, dated Phari, 23rd December :—

"Arrived here yesterday afternoon. All well. Found this place unoccupied by Thibetan troops, and the jong or fort untenanted except by the Depon and one or two other local officials. Have moved 150 Gurkhas and one 7-pr. gun into fort as garrison, which will remain here, and have rationed them for ten days. There are between 2,000 and 3,000 inhabitants in town of Phari, who are friendly; also a considerable amount of forage and supplies. I have reconnoitred the Tangla, and beyond, for about 12 miles from here, and find country clear of any hostile force. Depon and local officials are remaining in the fort with the troops, constituting a joint occupation. Am returning to New Chumbi to-morrow morning with the remainder of the column, and shall arrive there 24th. Thermometer last night registered  $41\frac{1}{2}$  degrees of frost. Troops are standing cold and elevation well."

## No. 57.

*The Marquess of Lansdowne to Chang Ta-jén.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, December 29, 1903.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 22nd instant, stating that a Thibetan official of the name of Ko-pa-lung has been nominated by the Amban to act as Thibetan Commissioner in the negotiations with the British Commissioner. I trust that if Ko-pa-lung is of suitable rank, his appointment will be sanctioned by the Dalai Lama without delay.

His Majesty's Government have received with much satisfaction the information that the two natives of Sikkim, who were reported to have been put to death, are alive and well, and that instructions have been given for their immediate liberation. I shall be glad to learn that the orders issued for the release of these men have been carried into effect, and that they have returned to their country.

With reference to the hope expressed by the Board of Foreign Affairs that it will not be considered necessary for the British forces to advance further into Thibet, I have the honour to inform you that, as stated in my note of the 28th ultimo, it is impossible that His Majesty's Government should, in present circumstances, desist from the measures which they have already sanctioned.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LANSDOWNE.



Further Correspondence Respecting the Affairs of Thibet Part I 1903. May 1904. TS Political and Secret Department Records: Series 20: Political and Secret Department Library (1757-1952): Foreign Office Prints (1843-1937) IOR/L/PS/20/FO84/1. British Library. China and the Modern World, [link.gale.com/apps/doc/RCPNPJW202697491/CFER?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-CFER&xid=8b1729d7&pg=3](https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/RCPNPJW202697491/CFER?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-CFER&xid=8b1729d7&pg=3). Accessed 21 Apr. 2022.